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COMPENDIUM
of the
PRACTICE OF PHYSIC;

Pointing out

THE SYMPTOMS, CAUSES, DIAGNOSES, PROGNoses, AND
METHOD OF CURE OF DISEASES.

BY E. G. CLARKE, M. D.

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TRANSLATED

From the original latin, with notes and additions,
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PREFACE.

THE high estimation in which the original work is held by the faculty of Great Britain and the flattering reception it met with from those for whose service it was principally intended, hath induced the editor to present it in a translated form to his medical brethren in the United States, it appears to be particularly adapted to the students of medicine, as a kind of text book in the lecture room of their professor ; and to the young and country practitioner, who at a distance from other aid, may in cases of emergency refer to it, as to the opinion and council of an experienced and able adviser. Shall the editor be thought in any wise to have contributed to the interests and advancement of his profession, his wishes will be abundantly gratified, and his trouble amply rewarded.

R. W. WORTHINGTON.

Philadelphia, Nov. 17, 1818.

SIR,

I have looked over the manuscript which you did me the favor to submit to my perusal, and find it, so far as I am able to determine, from so cursory an examination, to exhibit a very faithful version of the original work.

A Compendium, like this, of the practice of Physic, I have no doubt would be found very convenient by the Medical Class, and among them, will probably meet with a ready sale.

Yours, &c.

N. CHAPMAN

To Dr. R. W. Worthington.

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COMPENDIUM
OF THE
PRACTICE OF PHYSIC.

CLASS I.

Pyresiaë, or Febrile Diseases.

CHARACTER.

A frequent pulse and increased heat succeeding a fit of shivering, many of the functions being disturbed, with prostration of strength, particularly of the limbs.

ORDER I.

Febres, or Fevers.

CHARACTER.

Preceding languor, lassitude, and other signs of debility, without any primary local affection.

CHAPTER I.

Intermittents.—The Tertian.

SYMPTOMS.

The first stage commences with yawning, stretching, lassitude, debility, shrinking of the features, pain or sense of uneasiness in the back and the extremities, to these succeed chills, shivering and a sensation of coldness, at first in the back, and gradually over the whole body; also nausea, vomiting, pains in the head, back, and limbs; respiration becomes difficult and anxious; the pulse weak, quick, and small, and the urine colourless; the cold stage gradually going off, the other succeeds; intense heat now prevails, the pulse becomes full, strong, and hard, and the breathing more free, but anxious; the skin red and swollen; tongue white and dry, great thirst, intense pain in the head and sometimes delirium attend, the urine rather red. These symptoms at length subsiding, the third stage commences. A copious sweat breaks out, the urine deposits a lateritious sediment; all the secretions are restored, the symptoms are alleviated, and on the ceasing of the sweat, are entirely carried off, debility alone sometimes remaining. The paroxysms observe an equal interval of forty eight hours with meridian accessions. Intermittents take place in the spring and autumn.

Causes.

Debility, miasma arising from swamps and marshy grounds, a humid atmosphere, cold externally applied, contagion, and perhaps the influence of the moon.†

Prognostic.

The favourable symptoms are, the paroxysms being regular and not lasting above twelve hours, an eruption appearing about the mouth on the decline of the disease, the urine depositing a sediment; the unfavourable are, lethargy, delirium, great anxiety, hiccough, swelling of the tonsils, obstinate costiveness, oppression and pain in the hypochondriac and epigastric regions during the fit; an aversion to food, or debility accompanied by giddiness in the intermissions; a thick eruption of itchy spots.

† This has been assigned as one of the causes of the above fever, though I believe it has not generally obtained with practitioners. Others say that the idea is absurd, and attribute it rather to the cold and damp night air, which persons invited by the moon-light and fine nights in hot countries, usually expose themselves to. For information on this subject see Dr. Jackson on the fevers of Jamaica, and Drs. Balfour and Lind on putrid fevers. This subject affords ample room for much interesting enquiry, and will alone be determined by future experience.

Cure.

The stomach and bowels are to be cleansed by gentle emetics† and cathartics, and in the intermissions tonics, particularly the bark, bitters, and astringents are to be given in large doses; if these avail not, the arsenical solution, sulphate of zinc and preparations of mercury may be made use of; an end may be put to the fit, by giving an emetic in the cold, and a large dose of laudanum in the commencement of the hot stage: if the patient be of a full habit, bleeding is required; if great debility supercedes, a nourishing diet will be requisite, if much coma or delirium arise, blisters and cordials. To guard against a relapse, the cinchona bark and other medicines of this class should be given at short intervals. The exciting causes must be carefully shunned. Might not ‡compression of the femo-

† An emetic given immediately before the commencement of the cold fit, will often, by its operation, prevent the accession of it, and quickly induce the hot stage. The antimon: tartarizat: is the best formula for this purpose, given in large doses.

‡ Mr. Kellie of the R. N. was the person who first introduced the idea and practice of stopping the circulation of the arterial system in intermittents. It has

ral or brachial arteries, the effusion of cold water, or the anthemis pyrethrum in doses of half a drachm, given frequently, be of service?

Quartan and Quotidian.

In these two the paroxysms are similar, save, that in the former an interval of seventy-two hours succeeds each paroxysm; (which takes place in the evening;) in the latter, an interval of twenty-four hours succeeds a morning parox-

since been extensively employed by army and navy surgeons, many of whom report highly in favour of the practice. The tourniquet should be applied to the femoral and brachial arteries of the opposite sides on the instant of the symptoms of the cold fit being observed, which will thus be suspended and the hot quickly induced, which will be rendered much milder by it.

§ The joint use of the hot bath and cold effusion has been attended in some instances with the highest effect: on the approach of the cold fit the patient is to be put into the hot bath and to continue there until all chance of the return of the shivering is removed, and then being taken out two or three pails of cold water are to be dashed over him. The cold fit is thus prevented, the hot one either entirely removed or rendered milder; nor do the profuse sweats succeed which generally happen, and tend so much to the exhaustion of the patient.

ysm. The method of cure is the same in these as in the tertian, the quartan being more difficult of cure than either of the others.

CHAPTER II.

Synocha, or Inflammatory Fever.

SYMPTOMS.

This fever commences with a marked rigor, followed by intense heat, flushing of the face, head-ache, pain in the loins and back, redness of the eyes and insufferance of light: the skin, tongue, and fauces dry, great thirst, a dry cough; loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, anxiety, and restlessness, tossing about, the sense of smelling destroyed, the bowels mostly bound, urine red, pulse quick, strong, and hard, the functions of the brain disturbed, and the blood when drawn, exhibiting a white or buffy crust.

Causes.

A sudden suppression of accustomed evacuations, cold applied to the body when heated, great mental or bodily fatigue, and exposure to

hot suns, suddenly repelled eruptions, violent passions, spirituous drinks, or excess in eating.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from typhus by the strong pulse, the heat, intensity of pains, the great thirst, and by the disturbance of the sensorial functions.

Prognostic.

The disease is frequently happily carried off about the seventh day by hæmorrhage, sweat, by the urine depositing a sediment, or by a gentle diarrhœa. Laborious breathing, great pains in the head with violent delirium, pale watery urine, affection of the belly and bowels, and a yellowness of the skin before the seventh day, are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

General blood letting, repeated according to the age of the patient, the habit of body, manner of living, time of the year, and the prevailing diseases of the season; and if the pain in the head should be severe, leeches must be applied to the temples; then an emetic, cathartics, or laxative clysters, daily if required, afterwards small nauseating doses of antimonial tartar in

solution, but avoiding vomiting; tepid diluents and acid drinks, neutral salts, perfect quietness, and the strictly low diet; should delirium, or affections of the breast or abdomen arise, relieve by blood letting, laxatives, blisters, and foot-baths; or might not the murias barytæ, digitalis, or a slight salivation be useful?



CHAPTER III.

Typhus Mitior, or Nervous Fever.

SYMPTOMS.

These at the commencement are languor, extraordinary weakness, loss of appetite, frequent and irregular attacks of shivering and heat, mental dejection, with constant sighing; some days having thus elapsed, the patient is seized with pains in the head, or giddiness, a sense of cold, particularly in the back of the head, with nausea and vomiting of insipid phlegm, and with vast prostration of strength; the heat is slightly in-

† When the delirium arises late in the disease, topical blood letting by leeches applied to the temples, will be the preferable mode of drawing blood.

creased, no thirst, the tongue at first moist, and covered with a brown crust, afterwards dry, brown and somewhat furred, the countenance pale and depressed, pulse small, weak, and frequent, respiration laborious, with a sense of tightness about the diaphragm, urine somewhat changed, and the functions of the brain much disturbed.

Causes.

Melancholy, poor diet, a sedentary life, excessive evacuations, immoderate indulgence of the venereal passion, contagion, a moist and humid atmosphere, an impoverished state of the blood.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from typhus gravior, (or putrid fever,) by the mildness of the attack, by the rigors being less intense, the paleness of the skin, absence of thirst, and by all the symptoms being less severe.

Prognosis.

The tongue and skin moist, the pulse becoming more slow and strong, after a gentle perspiration or the administration of cordials, pimples appearing about the mouth and nose, a miliary

eruption without much sweat, deafness and a free flow of saliva without apthæ, are favourable symptoms. Delirium appearing soon, and continuing, profuse evacuations with a weak pulse, starting of the tendons, tremor of the hands and tongue, catching at the bed clothes, watchfulness, dulness of the eyes, blindness, coma, impeded deglutition, accompanied by hiccoughs are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

Emetics, particularly on the commencement of the attack are never to be omitted, the bowels emptied by laxatives and emollient clysters, a nourishing diet, cordials, particularly wine and opium, given frequently in small quantities, small repeated blisters,† foot baths, or fomentations of the legs, particularly if restlessness or watching attend, the body should be sponged with warm water and vinegar, and afterwards wiped dry; oxygen gas may be made use of, the mineral acids, bottled porter, spruce beer, &c. yeast also: a remission being effected, or the

† Unless they are intended to remove particular local affections, their employment had better be dispensed with.

tongue and skin becoming moist, the bark is to be freely given. In the exacerbations which arise on the approach of evening and marked by flushings of the face, increase of thirst and restlessness, an effusion of cold water over the naked body has been attended with the highest benefit, particularly where the heat of the body has been above the natural standard, ‡cold water is to be drank liberally. May not the Cayenne pepper be given in small doses every two or three hours with advantage, or small quantities of calomel to keep up a gentle effect, or the arsenical solution?

CHAPTER IV.

Typhus Gravior, or Putrid Fever.

SYMPTOMS.

The rigors in the commencement of this fever are more severe than those of the nervous fever,

‡ It is not to be drank if the patient is at all cool. In the hot state of the body nothing can be more grateful and refreshing as also beneficial, but its use must be discontinued when a general sweat breaks out on the body.

and are succeeded by intense acrid heat, the pulse hard, small, and weak, and often irregular, throbbing of the temporal and caroted arteries, great prostration of strength, anxiety of mind and dejection, foreboding of ill, nausea, bilious vomiting of a black or greenish colour, the eyes inflamed and painful, the countenance swollen and ghastly, pains in the limbs, back, and pit of the stomach, the skin parched, with an unpleasant stinging heat, the tongue at first white, afterwards black, and dry, unquenchable thirst, with an unpleasant taste in the mouth, the teeth and lips covered with a tenacious scurf, giddiness, ringing in the ears, laborious breathing interrupted by sighing, urine at first pale, afterwards of a dark colour, depositing a brownish and fetid sediment. The disease progressing, delirium, or rather stupor and signs of putrescency shew themselves, such as petichiaë, livid spots, welts, ulcers of a black colour about the mouth and fauces, with a difficulty of swallowing, the urine and other secretions tinged with blood, the stools become very fetid, and hemorrhages break out from the gums and bowels.

Causes.

Unwholesome and putrid food, a moist and

overheated atmosphere, weakness, the effluvia from putrid animal or vegetable matter, a poor diet, immoderate evacuations, excess of venery, contagion.

Diagnosis.

The symptoms just now detailed are sufficient to distinguish this disease from either the inflammatory or nervous fever.

Prognosis.

Clay or brown coloured stools, gentle perspiration, a flow of saliva, suppuration of the glands in the neck, axillæ, or groins, eruptions about the mouth and nostrils, stupor, deafness, bright coloured petechiæ, and the urine depositing a sediment, are favourable symptoms. A want of thirst, abundance of black spots or their sudden recession, accompanied by a faint pulse, livid coloured apthæ, inflammation of the fauces, difficult respiration, with an expansive motion of the nostrils, great debility, liquid stools, with a tense state of the abdomen, lying on the back with the limbs extended, profuse sweats, fetid urine, hæmorrhages, deep coma, twitching of the tendons and a cadaverous smell of the body, are fatal symptoms.

Cure.

An emetic in the first place, and after a few hours have elapsed, three or four grains of calomel in a little conserve or mucilage, daily laxatives, as India rhubarb and the like, or mild clysters to clear the intestines of the offensive and putrescent matter which is generated, antiseptics and cordials, as wine, opium, and bark, as in the nervous fever, are to be given liberally; carbonic acid gas received into the stomach and bowels by injection, trephigerants, as the mineral acids and neutral salts, a nourishing diet, cold ablution or effusion as in typhus mitior, the strictest cleanliness, the air of the apartment as pure as possible. The disease becoming aggravated, or great debility supervening, small repeated blisters† are to be applied; purging arising, is to be checked by laxatives, acids, and opium. Delirium by foot baths, blisters, and fomentations to the legs.

† Medicines of this class, particularly nitre, often prove prejudicial by the irritation they produce in the stomach, if given in such quantities as to have any effect.

‡ If signs of putridity are present, they must not be made use of: in fact in this fever they should seldom or

CHAPTER V.

Synochus, or continued Simple Fever.

CHARACTER.

A contagious disease, the fever composed of synocha and typhus; in the commencement synocha, in the progress and towards the close, typhus.

Cure.

The treatment of this disease must be guided by the type it assumes, conformably to the rules laid down under the respective heads, but bleeding must be resorted to with caution.



CHAPTER VI.

Remittent Fever.

This disease commences with symptoms similar to synocha, but the treatment must never be employed. The tendency to gangrene must not be overlooked. Delirium may here be relieved by æther, vinegar, and cold applications to the shaved head, and by camphor, musk, and ammonia internally. As to the debility, I do not see how blisters can relieve it.

lar to the intermittent. The cause, and means of cure are the same.†

CHAPTER VII.

Hectic Fever.

CHARACTER.

A fever returning daily, with morning and evening paroxysms, the remissions being most apparent in the morning; usually accompanied by profuse night sweats, the urine depositing a branny, brick coloured sediment. It is only symptomatic of ‡Phthisis, and will be treated of under that head.

† In this fever the paroxysms abate, but the fever does not go off entirely: or rather the exacerbations being so quick in succession, time is not allowed for the patient's temporary recovery.

‡ It is symptomatic of chlorosis, scrophula; diseases of the viscera also.

ORDER II.

Phlegmasiæ, or Inflammations.

CHARACTER.

Synocha fever, inflammation or topical pain, the function of some internal part, being at the same time injured ; the blood when drawn and cooled, exhibiting a leathery or buffy surface. Of this species are phlegmon and erythema, (or erysipelas.)

CHAPTER I.

Phlegmon.

CHARACTER.

Synocha, a circumscribed and generally pointed and elevated tumor, with bright redness, frequently turning into abscess ; often accompanied by a throbbing pain, and terminating in resolution, suppuration or gangrene ; when it ter-

minates in resolution, the inflammation goes off, the texture of the part remaining entire and sound; should the symptoms increase, the tumor becoming pointed, attended with a pulsation in the part, and frequent rigors, suppuration will ensue, and the matter being formed, the pain abates, the tumor becomes soft, white, fluctuating and itchy, and bursts; gangrene is to be expected by the redness, heat, pain and tension subsiding, and gangrene being established, the part assumes a black and livid colour, with a loss of sensibility, the cuticle being at the same time beset with vesicles.

Causes.

The application of acrid substances to the part, external injury, extraneous substances lodged in the body, cold and the causes which produce synocha.

Prognostic.

The greatest danger is to be apprehended, where parts important to life are affected. The disposition to gangrene is marked by the signs above enumerated: greater danger attends internal than external inflammation.

Cure.

To promote resolution, the antiphlogistic regimen is to be strictly enforced; bleeding, according to the strength of the patient, and violence of the symptoms; leeches to the part affected, cathartics, diluent and cooling drinks, discutients externally, as the acetate of lead, vinegar, &c., suppuration to be promoted by emollient poultices and fomentations; gangrene to be checked by tonics and antiseptics, of which the most efficacious are opium, wine, bark, musk, and the subcarbonate of ammonia in large doses.



CHAPTER II.

Erythema, (or inflammation of the surface without an accompanying affection of the system.

SYMPTOMS.

A shining redness of the part affected, vanishing on pressure, but quickly returning; a swelling scarcely perceptible, attended with a sharp, burning pain, spreading irregularly over the neighbouring parts, terminating in scales or vesicles, rarely in gangrene.

Cause.

Acrimonious matter applied to the skin, or thrown out on it from the internal parts; any thing that relaxes the system.

Cure.

A low diet; the topical application of powdered starch, or the impure oxide of zinc, if symptoms of inflammation arise, bleeding, laxatives, and diluent drinks are to be employed.



CHAPTER III.

Ophthalmia membranorum, or Inflammation of the membranes of the Eye.

SYMPTOMS.

Redness of the tunica adnata, heat and pain in the eye, with the sensation of a fly or thorn sticking in it, effusion of tears, intolerance of light, sometimes violent fever. It is idiopathic or symptomatic.

Causes.

External injury, foreign bodies lodged in the eye, metallic fumes, inversion of the eye-lashes,

drunkenness, a strong light, scrofula, small-pox, syphilis.

Cure.

If the affection be idiopathic, general and topical blood letting, scarification of the vessels of the adnata, purging, blisters behind the ears, avoiding all irritating causes, particularly a strong light, topical applications, as acetate of lead, preparations of zinc, &c., mixed in cold water, opium internally, and a solution of it to the eyes, the antiphlogistic regimen: should erysipelas attack the parts affected, tonics, as bark, the cold bath, and ablution of the eyes in cold water &c. astringents, as alum, are to be used; where symptoms of lues venerea present, the preparations, of mercury; when scrofula, tonics, hemlock, chalybeate waters, and externally a cataplasm of the sour sorrel or of alum,† an ointment of the nitrate of mercury, and the like must be used.

† The white of an egg coagulated, by stirring in it a bit of alum, forms an excellent cataplasm for this purpose.

CHAPTER IV.

Inflammatio tarsi, (or inflammation of the tarsus.

CHARACTER.

To the signs mentioned in the preceding chapter are to be added, a swelling of the tarsus, an erosion and glutinous exudation, the inflammation of the adnata less violent.

Cure.

The means of cure the same as in the former case, except that the ulcerations require the preparations of copper, mercury and zinc: the adhesion of the eyelids during sleep may be prevented by besmearing them with the tutty or spermaceti ointment.



CHAPTER V.

Phrenitis or inflammation of the brain and its membranes.

SYMPTOMS.

Violent fever, intense pain in the head, redness of the face and eyes, ringing in the ears, fierce-

ness of the countenance, intolerance of light and sound, watchings, extreme delirium, violent raving, throbbing of the temporal and carotid arteries, difficult respiration, dry and brown tongue, pulse generally quick and hard, though sometimes soft.

Causes.

The remote causes are all those which produce synocha, violent passions of the mind, exposure to the sun, excess of drinking, blows on the head, very hot weather, night study: the proximate cause is an affection of the brain itself or membranes.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from mania by the violent fever, and from synocha, by the excessive delirium attending the commencement of the attack.

Prognosis.

The favourable symptoms are, universal sweats, copious diarrhœa, bleeding from the nose, the urine depositing a sediment; the unfavourable are a dark coloured vomiting, white or clay coloured stools, the pupils of the eyes dilated, and insensible to light, continual mastication of the

saliva, foaming at the mouth, picking at the bed-clothes, the eyes watering as if filled with dust, determined refusal of drink, difficulty of swallowing, tremors, convulsions, twitching of the tendons. Succeeding to pneumonia it is fatal.

Cure.

Copious and repeated† bleedings, from a large orifice, that a quantity of blood may be lost in a short time; leeches and cupping glasses applied to the temples, purging, blisters to the head, previously shaved, the antiphlogistic regimen, diluent drinks, external applications as cloths wetted with vinegar and water applied to the temples; great debility supervening, a few drops of laudanum are frequently to be given, the body to be kept in the erect posture.‡

† The blood had better in the first instance be drawn from the temporal arteries, (or jugular veins if possible) and in considerable quantities.

‡ From its acknowledged action on the arterial system, may we not expect much advantage from the employment of digitalis in this affection?

CHAPTER VI.

Cynanche Tonsillaris, or Inflammatory Sore Throat.

SYMPTOMS.

Pain, swelling and redness of the mucous membrane of the fauces, particularly of the tonsils, difficulty of swallowing, a sense of constriction of the throat, dryness of the mouth and fauces, pain in the internal ear, a constant and difficult excretion of mucus, synocha fever, or a swelling commonly appearing in one tonsil, and then disappearing and occupying the other. The inflammation sometimes proceeds to such height, that the breathing becomes impeded.

Causes.

All such as produce inflammation, cold applied to the neck, great vocal exercise, stimulating substances sticking in the throat, childhood.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from the malignant sore throat by the greater strength of the pulse, by the fever, which in this is synocha, in the other typhus, and by the absence of ulcers.

Prognosis.

It is most frequently terminated by resolution or suppuration, rarely by gangrene; slight fever, free respiration and external swellings, are favourable symptoms.

Cure.

Topical blood letting, emetics, particularly in the commencement, blisters and strong liniments to the neck, cleansing the bowels, by calomel especially, the antiphlogistic regimen, astringent gargles, inhaling the steams of hot vinegar and water. If suppuration should threaten, fomentations and cataplasms must be employed; if suffocation should be feared, scarifications of the tonsils, inhalation of æther and hot water, or bronchotomy.



CHAPTER VII.

Cynanche Maligna, or Putrid Sore Throat.

SYMPTOMS.

Frequent shiverings, nausea, anxiety, and vomiting, are the first indications of this disease. These are very shortly followed by stiffness in

the back of the neck, uneasiness in the fauces, and hoarseness, the fauces are dry and swelled, deglutition difficult. Presently white, or ash coloured spots spreading and running together, appear on the affected parts and cover the fauces with thick scales; these falling off, small ulcers show themselves underneath; now an acrid coryza pouring forth a fetid humour, excoriates the lips and nostrils; †children are troubled with diarrhœa. The fever progressing, the pulse becomes small, quick, and irregular, the breathing sonorous and hoarse. The symptoms on the approach of evening become aggravated, and remit towards morning, great prostration of strength, delirium and coma supervene; on the 2d or 3d day the skin on the face and neck becomes covered with blotches of a bright red colour, spreading and at length covering the whole body, the hands and extremities of the fingers become rigid and swollen. The eruption about the fourth day generally disappears and the cuticle peels off, the fever on the accession or recession of the eruption is seldom diminished; the disease pro-

† Occasioned by their inability or unwillingness to gargle their throats, and swallowing the acrid secretion from the ulcers, which of course, in its passage through the intestines, will cause gripings and looseness.

ceeding, signs of putridity appear, and the patient is carried off between the 3d and 7th days.

Cause.

Contagion.‡

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from cynanche tonsillaris by the pulse, by the swallowing being less difficult, by the ash coloured spreading spots, by the hoarseness, and by the type of the fever.

Prognosis.

The danger is to be estimated by the violence of the fever and tendency to gangrene, a livid colour of the ulcers, the breath and discharge from the nostrils smelling fetidly, profuse diarrhoea, delirium and coma continuing, great anxiety and restlessness portend a fatal termination. The favourable symptoms are a kinder appearance of the ulcers, a remission of the fever on the appearance of the eruption, and another on its scaling off, slight and general perspiration, the scales falling off from the fauces, sleep, a desire for food and other such favorable signs returning.

‡ Also, a moist state of the atmosphere, and a relaxed habit.

Cure.

Repeated emetics, laxatives, or gentle clysters, should the state of the bowels require; putridity is to be prevented by bark, wine, opium, antiseptics, and stimulating gargles, especially cayenne pepper and rattle-snake-root, repeated blisters,† foot baths, the greatest cleanliness, a free admission of cool air, and the other remedies as spoken of in typhus. The fetor of the ulcers is best removed by the frequent injection of a solution of alum in water, half an ounce of the former to one pint of the latter. Might not the cold effusion be of benefit?

CHAPTER VIII.

Cynanche Trachealis, or Croup.

SYMPTOMS.

It chiefly attacks children about the time of weaning, but sometimes adults, with a dull hea-

† Blisters are not admissible in this disease, they are apt to give rise to pustules, which in the progress of the disease often become ulcerous from the general putrid tendency, and the patient is subject to danger from gangrene. Stimulating linaments or embrocations should be substituted.

vy pain in the upper part of the trachea, generally without any apparent swelling, a cough or a shrill hoarseness accompanying the speech as if the voice proceeded from a metallic tube, which may be compared to the sound of a French horn. To this succeeds a difficulty of respiration with a wheezing inspiration, a short, interrupted and generally dry cough; if at any time an expectoration comes on, a purulent matter mixed with membranous films is thrown up, the face becomes livid and red, great thirst prevails, with an unpleasant sensation of heat, and restlessness; the power of swallowing is more or less impeded, generally no morbid appearance is visible in the fauces, but sometimes a swelling or redness, the urine at first clear, afterwards turbid, the pulse quick and weak, synocha fever; the patient enjoys his functions unimpaired, and is sometimes carried off by strangulation.

Diagnosis.

It is easily distinguished by the peculiar sound of the voice, and the sense of strangulation about the larynx.

Prognosis.

A very difficult respiration with a wheezing

sound, great restlessness, and violent fever, are bad omens; an expectoration of the filmy matter, free respiration, voice not much altered, are favourable symptoms.

Cure.

Leeches are to be applied as near as possible to the part affected, emetics to excite vomiting and nausea, stimulating embrocations, refrigerants, and gentle purgatives, inhaling the steam of warm water, the warm bath, antispasmodics, as musk, assafœtida, etc. When adults are attacked with this complaint, blood letting, and the remedies under the head of synocha must be instantly resorted to. Might not the submuriate of mercury in frequent small doses, or the rattle-snake-root, or mezeron to excite at first vomiting, and afterwards nausea, or discharge by stool, be of service?

† Bleeding has been advised only in adults, but it should be employed also in children, even the very young. Digitalis promises to be an useful remedy, and should therefore be given, though not to the preclusion of general and topical blood-letting. Small doses of Dover's powders when the inflammatory symptoms have subsided will be beneficial, by producing sleep, a gentle diaphoresis, and a remission of the spasmodic affection.

CHAPTER IX.

Cynanche Pharyngea, or Inflammation of the Pharynx.

SYMPTOMS.

Redness in the posterior fauces, deglutition greatly impeded and very painful, respiration easy, synocha fever. It arises from the same causes as cynanche tonsillaris, and requires a similar method of cure.

CHAPTER X.

Cynanche Parotidea, or Mumps.

SYMPTOMS.

A large external swelling of the parotid and maxillary glands, appearing at first in the angles of the lower jaw, respiration and deglutition being somewhat impeded, accompanied generally with synocha fever. On the tumours receding, the breasts in females and the testes in males become affected.

Prognosis.

Violent pyresiaë or phrenitis succeeding to the retrocession of the tumours in the breasts or testes is a bad omen.

Cure.

In general the antiphlogistic regimen is alone required, but if on the retrocession of the tumours in the breasts or testes, the pyresiaë should increase, with signs of phrenitis or stupor, fermentations to the head, blisters, and the other remedies adapted to those affections must be employed.



CHAPTER XI.

Pneumonia, or Inflammation of the Lungs.

SYMPTOMS.

It commences with rigors, shiverings, increased heat, and the other symptoms of synocha; after the lapse of a few hours, the symptoms about to be described succeed; a fixed pungent pain in the side, but sometimes an obtuse one with a sense of weight, most commonly between the sixth and seventh ribs, and darting through between the scapulæ and thence to the clavicle and sternum, a constant difficulty of respiration, increased by inspiration, and often not to be effected unless the body be placed in the upright posture. The lying on the affected or sound side is pain-

ful, but less so when on the back, a great or less degree of cough accompanies from the commencement. There is at first a trifling expectoration, afterwards the matter thrown up by spitting varies in colour and is often tinged with blood, the face becomes tumid and of a purple colour, anxiety and restlessness prevail, the pulse becomes frequent, full, hard, and increased, but sometimes soft and slow. It is terminated by resolution, suppuration, gangrene, effusion, or exudation from the internal surface of the lungs. Under the title of pneumonia are included pleuritis and peripneumony.

Causes.

The remote causes are certain seasons of the year, as winter and spring, a sanguineous temperament, a diminished or sudden suppression of perspiration, the time of life between 40 and 60,† violent exertion of the lungs, the causes inducing synocha, vicissitude of heat and cold, former diseases. The proximate cause is inflammation of the pleura or lungs.

† This will apply more particularly to peripneumonitis.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from hepatitis by the pain induced by lying on the affected side, by the pain not being increased by pressure, by the hiccough, and by the situation of the part affected.

Prognosis.

Violent pyresia, difficult respiration, cough frequent and violent, aggravating the pain, the pain translated from the one to the other side, increased anxiety and restlessness, delirium, the respiration being suddenly checked and hurried, are unfavourable symptoms. A free expectoration of a thick yellow matter slightly tinged with blood,† unaccompanied by a violent cough, hemorrhages from the nostrils or hemorrhoidal veins, a bilious diarrhœa, the urine depositing a sediment, or an erysipelatous eruption coming out on the surface are favourable symptoms. The inflammatory symptoms continuing till the fourteenth day, but somewhat moderated, denote a result in suppuration, a remission of the pain and spitting, slight rigors, hectic fever, increased cough and dyspnœa, the lying on the affected

† This is not exactly the case. The presence of matter although tinged with blood, may be said to be more favourable than the total absence of any expectoration.

side being most easy, with a sense of weight in the thorax, confirm the fact of suppuration. The symptoms of effusion, inducing suffocation, are the respiration being suddenly shortened and hurried, and not to be performed unless in the erect posture, the pulse being weak and very frequent.

Cure.

A sudden and copious substraction of blood, repeated according to the violence of the attack and strength of the patient, leeches or cupping glasses applied to the part, repeated blisters to the thorax, gentle laxatives and mild enemas, warm diluent drinks, gratefully acidulated, mucilaginous demulcents, the antiphlogistic regimen, emetic medicines, as the antimonial tartar or ipecacuanha, in such reduced doses as to create nausea only, expectorants, the steams of hot water received into the lungs by the mouth, pediluvia. If the cough be very troublesome, the difficulty of respiration and all fever being removed, opiates may be given with the highest advantage. In cases of effusion or empyema, the digitalis should be used. Might not the preparations of mercury with small doses of opium to excite a slight salivation, be useful ?

CHAPTER XII.

Peripneumonia Notha, or Spurious Peripneumony.

SYMPTOMS.

Alternate fits of heat and cold prevail, lassitude, a moist cough, an expectoration of a dark and viscid phlegm, obtuse pain, or rather a sense of weight and straitness in some part of the thorax, great pain in the head, sometimes a vomiting, difficulty of breathing, flushing of the face, vertigo or drowsiness, commonly none or a mild fever.

Cause.

The time of year, as spring and autumn, advanced age, sudden changes of the weather, former catarrhs.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from pneumonia by the mildness or total absence of the fever, by the pain, heat and thirst being less urgent, from asthma, by the difficulty of breathing being less violent, and by its not recurring by intervals.

Prognosis.

Violent pyresia coming on suddenly is attended with the greatest danger.†

Cure.

Blood-letting‡ is generally prejudicial unless the difficulty of breathing and sense of oppression are urgent, emetic medicines in such doses as to excite nausea, successive blisters applied to the thorax, gentle laxatives and enemas, diluents, expectorants, and the warm bath, should be used. May not digitalis be given?

Carditis is distinguished from this disease by the intermitting pulse, syncope, and palpitation. Diaphragmatis is accompanied by pain about the lower ribs, encompassing the abdomen above the lumbar region like a belt, the respiration being very difficult, the abdomen being quiescent, the thorax alone being affected, by perpetual delirium and by the sardonic laugh.

† As also an increase of the difficulty of breathing; hoarseness, and coldness of the extremities.

‡ The inflammatory symptoms sometimes appear to demand this evacuation, whilst the tendency of the disease to effusion, point out a different treatment. Our care should be to obviate the tendency of those symptoms which threaten the more immediate danger.

Peritonitis is accompanied by pyresiaë, by a pain of the abdomen increased by the erect posture, without the symptoms of the other abdominal inflammations being present. These diseases demand a similar mode of treatment as does pneumonia.

CHAPTER XIII.

Gastritis, or Inflammation of the Stomach.

SYMPTOMS.

An ardent, fixed, and pungent pain in the region of the stomach, much increased by any thing being received into it, as also by pressure, severe vomiting, distressing hiccoughs, acute constant pain about the præcordia, great prostration of strength, hard and small pulse, constant thirst, acute continued fever; the disease continuing, a suppression of urine takes place.

Causes.

Cold water drank when the body is over-heated, external violence, acrid substances, over-distension of the stomach, repelled eruptions.

Diagnosis.

The pathognomonic symptoms are a burning pain and tumour of the epigastric region, tormenting vomiting and eructation, great prostration of strength, hiccough.

Prognosis.

If the pain decreases gradually, and the pulse becomes more full and soft, resolution is to be expected. Suppuration is to be feared when the symptoms although more mild, (accompanied by rigors and remission of the pain) continue beyond the 7th day, the anxiety and sense of weight remaining. If notwithstanding the employment of the proper remedies, the pyresia, pain, and heat increase, gangrene is to be expected; the signs of its having taken place are a cessation of the pain and heat, and a flaccidity of the epigastric region, a very quick and intermitting pulse, increased debility, delirium.

Cure.

A copious and repeated subtraction of blood,

† This is not always the case, though in some instances a tumour or distension may be perceived. It would apply rather to inflammation of the epigastric muscles.

{the smallness of the pulse must not deter us†} afterwards leeches, cupping glasses and blisters, are to be applied to the part: fomentations to the abdomen, pediluvia, laxative and emollient clysters, mild diluents in small quantities,‡ in those cases where the pain and vomiting return by intervals, opiates. The erysipelatous inflammation is accompanied by the following symptoms: a sense of heat, pain in the stomach, vomiting, anxiety, loss of appetite, slight fever; sometimes an erysipelatous eruption appears in the fauces, which is often diffused through the whole alimentary canal, at the same time an unusual sensibility exists in the stomach to all acrid ingesta; bland and warm diluents are alone required, unless another species of gastritis should

† Flood-letting is here employed to increase the volume and strength of the pulse, and it must be repeated in proportion to the effect thus produced in each former instance.

‡ In some cases where the irritation has been very severe, the happiest effects have been produced from the administration of lime water and milk, in the dose of a wine glass full frequently; it will be found to allay the irritation, and at the same time afford some nourishment to the patient.

threaten ; if it should attend on putrid diseases, acids, antiseptics and tonics, must be used. All other remedies failing, may we not try the cold bath †

CHAPTER XIV.

Enteritis, or Inflammation of the Intestines.

SYMPTOMS.

An acute, fixed, and burning pain in the abdomen, increased by pressure, a general tension, particularly about the umbilicus, nausea, vomiting, great thirst, the bowels obstinately costive, acute fever, quick, hard, and contracted pulse, urine very red, sometimes a hiccough.

Cause.

It originates from the same causes as gastritis, from strangulated hernia, the iliac passion, colic, cold applied to the abdomen.

† In cases where acrid substances taken into the stomach are the cause of the disease, the vomiting must be solicited, and the remedies best adapted to counteract the effect of such substance be given ; and afterwards cathartics to carry off the offending matter from the intestines.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from hepatitis by the absence of the darting pain at the top of the shoulders ; from gastritis by the twisting and turning pain about the navel ; from colic by the fever and pulse.

Prognosis.

The pain not being stationary but ceasing gradually, the belly less tender to the touch, the bowels answering to the injections, hot and profuse sweats, the pulse full and soft, and a copious flow of turbid urine, are favorable symptoms. The unfavorable symptoms are, a severe twisting of the bowels, the abdomen tense and receding from the touch, the bowels obstinately bound, suppression of urine, paleness about the lips, constant hiccough, delirium, twitching of the tendons, convulsions.

Cure.

General and topical blood-letting, laxatives, by the mouth, emollient clysters, refrigerants, fomentations to the abdomen, the semicupium, blisters, mild diluents, or opiate injections, or the cold bath in the last extremity.

CHAPTER XV.

Hepatitis, or Inflammation of the Liver.

SYMPTOMS.

Fever, heat, tension and pain in the right side, often pungent, as in pleurisy, sometimes dull, and increased by pressure on the hypochondrium, pain at the clavicle and in the top of the right shoulder, pain in lying on the left side, difficulty of breathing increased on inspiration, generally a dry cough, anxiety, nausea, bilious vomiting, the bowels mostly costive, urine small in quantity and very red, sallowness of the face and eyes, a frequent, strong, and hard pulse, hiccoughs. When the convex surface is the seat of the disease, the pain is more severe and lancinating, greater tension, and a tumour is often observable, and the dyspnæa and hiccoughs are more violent. Where the concave surface is affected, the pain is less pungent, the breathing more free, but the anxiety, nausea, and vomiting are more urgent.

Causes.

Are those which produce inflammation, tubercles, schirrosity, adhesions of the liver, external

violence, biliary concretions in the ducts and gall bladder, depression of the mind, hot climates.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from pneumonia by the pain being less acute, and by its ascendance to the clavicle and right shoulder, by the increase of pain on pressure, by the pain occasioned by lying on the left side, by the bilious vomiting, the cough and dyspnæa being less violent, by the formation of a tumour, and the seat of pain; from enteritis, by the absence of the contractile pain about the umbilicus.

Prognosis.

The danger must be estimated by the tendency to suppuration or gangrene, the approach of which will be judged of by the preceding symptoms; hæmorrhage from the nose or hæmorrhoidal vessels, copious sweats or a bilious diarrhœa, often terminate it happily.

Cure.

General and topical blood-letting, blisters to the part affected, mild cathartics and enemas, fomentations, diluent and refrigerant drinks, antimonial tartar in such doses as to excite nausea, the antiphlogistic regimen. The disease inclin-

ing to suppuration, if the abscess should point externally, cataplasms and fomentations are to be used. In the East Indies the mode of cure consists of the employment of †nitric acid, or the external use of ‡mercury till a salivation is excited.

CHAPTER XVI.

Hepatitis Chronica.

CHARACTER.

This disease often affords no peculiar symptoms by which it may be distinguished; sometimes however, we may suspect it to be present from certain symptoms having preceded, and

† The nitro-muriatic acid bath has been employed by some practitioners in the East Indies, and lately in Europe, by many of whom it has been spoken of in the highest terms; however its use seems more adapted to the 2d or chronic stage.

‡ Many practitioners urge the use of mercury constitutionally in the early stage of acute hepatitis, but I believe in this stage, its use should be confined to its cathartic action.

from a sense of weight and fulness about the hypochondrium and from pain more or less pungent being felt in the part occasionally, by pain on pressure in the right side or by lying on the left side, and lastly from some fever accompanying the above symptoms.

Cure.

Mercury is to be employed externally and internally, until a salivation is excited, by tonics and bitters conjoined, especially the bark and preparations of iron. May not the nitric or nitrous acid be of service?

† Dr. Scott, who has had extensive opportunities of practice in the East Indies; remarks:—"For this chronic affection, it appears to me, that the nitro-muriatic acid applied to the skin is the most effectual and safest remedy. A few hours, or even a single hour, will sometimes bring relief; but it is necessary to continue the remedy till the system be sufficiently affected by it, and to repeat it occasionally until the patient has recovered his usual degree of strength." The nitro muriatic acid is formed by mixing equal quantities of nitrous or nitric acid and muriatic acid. As to the strength of the bath, it should generally be as strong as weak vinegar, but it must be regulated by the effects on the skin of the patient, as must also the time that he stays in the bath, by the effect on his feelings: from ten minutes to half an

CHAPTER XVII.

Splenitis, or Inflammation of the Spleen.

CHARACTER.

Fever, tension, heat, swelling, and pain in the left hypochondrium, increased on pressure, without any signs of nephritis. It will be easily distinguished from any other disease by the symptoms above mentioned, and the cure effected by the methods under the head of hepatitis.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Nephritis, or Inflammation of the Kidnies.

SYMPTOMS.

Fever, an acute pungent pain, but oftener an obtuse one in the region of the kidneys, frequently following the course of the ureter, a frequent flow of slightly discoloured or very red urine, a vomiting of bile, frequent eructation, stupor of the legs, retraction of or pain in the testicle of the same side.

hour, according to the debility or strength of the bather, may be a proper period to regulate by.

Cause.

All the general causes of inflammation produce this disease, acrid diuretics, wounds and contusions of the kidneys, constant violent exercise on horseback, indurated fæces in the colon, constant lying on the back, translated or atonic gout, calculi.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from lumbago by the frequent flow of urine, by the pain following the course of the ureter, and by its not being increased by the erect posture; from calculus, by the fever accompanying the first attack of pain.

Prognosis.

The pain ceasing gradually, copious and mucous urine, universal sweat, a flow of blood from the hemorrhoidal vessels, portend a favorable termination of the disease. A pulsating pain in the part, augmented by sneezing, increased fever, a frequent desire to make water, stranguery, the pain ceasing suddenly, hiccough and delirium, are unfavorable symptoms.

Cure.

General and topical blood-letting, mild laxa-

tives and repeated enemæ, bland diluents, rubefacients, fomentations, the semicupium, the antiphlogistic regimen, gentle diaphoretics, as the antimonial tartar and the like, in small doses; the fever and pain being much alleviated, opiates.



CHAPTER XIX.

Hysteritis, or Inflammation of the Womb.

SYMPTOMS.

Fever, heat, tension, swelling and pain, of the hypogastrium, the mouth of the uterus painful on pressure, strangury, tenesmus, vomiting, the bowels at first bound, afterwards loose.

Prognosis.

Great prostration of strength, flushing of the face, frequent rigors, and a tension of the abdomen are unfavorable symptoms: a mild perspiration, a flow of the lochia, the abdomen less tense, and a secretion of milk are favorable symptoms.

Cure.

General and topical blood-letting, fomenta-

tions to the abdomen, mild diaphoretics, as the ipecacuanha or antimonial tartar joined with opium, gentle laxatives, bland diluents, a mild and nourishing diet.†

CHAPTER XX.

Cystitis, or Inflammation of the Bladder.

SYMPTOMS.

Fever, a constant burning and frequent pain in the organ, a tumour, a frequent painful voidance of urine or a strangury, vomiting and tenesmus.

Causes.

All those producing inflammation, a calculus, inflammation of parts in the vicinity of the bladder, etc.

† Where the inflammation does not speedily give way to these means, we should cease the fomentations and apply a large blister to the abdomen, previously covered with camphor, to prevent its occasioning strangury; and diluent mucilaginous drinks should be given freely;

Cure.

The same means are to be employed as in hepatitis, but diluents in sparing quantities.†



CHAPTER XXI.

Rheumatismus, or acute Rheumatism.

SYMPTOMS.

Fever, acute lancinating pains about the joints, following the course of the muscles, frequently wandering, and occupying the knees and greater joints oftener than the joints of the feet or hands, increased also by heat and motion, swelling, redness, and tension of the affected part, urine very red, bowels constipated, pulse frequent, full, and hard, the blood when drawn exhibiting a buffy crust; on the approach of night all the symptoms are aggravated.

Causes.

Plethora, sudden changes of weather, cold

† If a calculus be ascertained to be the cause of the inflammation, it should be removed by the operation of lithotomy. If we suspect schirrosity to exist, we should give the extract conii, or hyoscyami, in conjunction with our other remedies.

applied to the body when heated, spring and autumn, inflammation of the membranes and tendinous aponeuroses of the muscles.

Diagnosis.

It may be distinguished from gout by the pain following the course of the muscles, and by no affection of the stomach existing antecedent to the attack.

Prognosis.

It is in general happily carried off by a copious and universal sweat, by the urine depositing a lateritious sediment, by diarrhœa, by hæmorrhage, or by a cutaneous eruption.

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen, general and topical blood-letting, mild cathartics and enemæ, refrigerants, particularly the neutral salts, diluents, diaphoretics, such as the antimonial tartar in small doses, the liq. ammon. acet. and Dover's powders; the pain becoming stationary, rubefacients and †blisters to the parts, ‡blood-letting

† They should not be applied till the inflammation has been much reduced.

‡ It must be remembered that blood-letting is not in-

must not be carried beyond certain bounds, for it will then protract the recovery. Might not the digitalis be useful, or bark particularly, if the disease should assume the intermittent type, and after the primæ viæ have been cleared by antimonial preparations? †

CHAPTER XXII.

Rheumatismus Chronicus, or Chronic Rheumatism.

SYMPTOMS.

After acute rheumatism, violent exertions or a sprain, pains of the limbs and muscles arise,

tended to remove the pain, but for the purpose of allaying the general excitement; and though the pains should become more severe, yet on the abatement of the fever a further abstraction of blood is not warrantable. The buffy appearance of the blood need not be attended to, as it is not found to be diminished by bleeding.

† Cold applications, as the muriate of ammonia in cold water or vinegar and water, may in cases where the inflammation is confined to particular joints, be resorted to with infinite advantage. Though this practice would be dangerous in gout it is not so in this disease.

greatly increased by motion, more or less wandering, alleviated by becoming warm in bed or by other external heat, the joints are weak, pale, rigid, easily and often becoming cold, no fever, and generally no swelling,

Causes.

Former acute rheumatism and most of the causes producing that disease. The proximate cause is atony, rigidity and contraction of the muscular fibres and extremities of the vessels.

Cure.

Internal stimulants, as rectified spirit of turpentine, gaiacum, anthemis pyrethrum, horse-radish and mustard : tonics, especially bark ; external stimulants, friction, electricity, exercise, the warm bath, external heat, rubefacients, blisters, diaphoretics, as ipecacuanha and opium, opium and calomel, of each a grain every evening for the space of ten evenings ; mercury, so as not to produce a salivation.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Podagra or Gout.

SYMPTOMS.

An hereditary affection arising without any external evident cause, but generally preceded by an unusual affection of the stomach, generally coming on about the second hour of the morning, with pain in the joint of the great toe, but sometimes in the heel or ankle as if the bones were luxated, and a sensation as of warm water thrown on the affected part: presently a rigour, shivering and pyresia succeed, but the pain is increased (the cold and shivering decreasing) until a crisis is formed on the following night; it then ceases gradually, and the patient covered with a light sweat, falls asleep, on awaking from which he perceives the affected part occupied by a swelling and redness; for some days the fever and pain increasing towards evening, returns, but goes off towards morning; a loss of appetite, rigor of the whole body on the approach of evening, languor, and a sense of lassitude accompany the paroxysm. On the recession of the fit an intolerable itching with a desquamation of the

cuticle attacks the affected foot: the attack going off, the patient for a length of time enjoys good health.

Causes.

The predisposing causes are an hereditary predisposition, plethora, advanced age, excess of venery; the occasional causes are an immoderate use of animal and high seasoned food, also a free use of wine and other spirituous liquors, intense study, a sedentary inactive life, suppressed evacuations, a large head, constant anxiety, violent exercise, particularly walking, cold applied to the inferior extremities.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from rheumatism by the pain attacking and continuing in the lesser joints, if when it is translated from the great toe of one foot, it attacks the other; by the swelling and redness of the part affected; by the previous affection of the stomach.

Prognosis.

This disease is rarely attended by danger, unless the stomach, head and parts essential to life, are affected.

Cure.

General venesection is mostly improper. Leeches to the part affected may sometimes be useful; but the best remedies are flannel and patience, a total abstinence from all kinds of animal food and spirituous drinks, unless the former habits of life, or symptoms of atony require otherwise; if swelling or stiffness remain after the fit, the flesh brush is assiduously to be employed. In the intervals, abstinence from fermented liquors, moderate exercise on foot or on horseback, cathartics, of castor oil, aloes, rhubarb, sulphur, soap, and the like, to obviate costiveness; tonics, as the bark, quassia, preparations of iron and the alkaline salts; the violence of the symptoms being abated, opiates. The disease appearing in a young subject when the strength is not much impaired, may not blood letting, mild laxatives, emetics, and exposure of the part affected, to the cold air, be employed?

CHAPTER XXIV.

Podagra Atonica, or Atonic Gout.

SYMPTOMS.

A tonic gout, with derangement of the stomach or some other internal part, and either without the expected or accustomed inflammation of the joints, or with slight and wandering pains only, and with dyspepsia and the other symptoms of atony oftentimes suddenly alternating, the bowels sometimes bound, at others loose, with colic pains, the thoracic viscera sometimes affected, producing palpitation of the heart, syncope and asthma, the encephalon being affected, head-ache vertigo, apoplectic and paralytic affections are produced.

Cure.

A studious avoidance of all the causes which give rise to debility; moderate exercise, the cold bath, if the body is stimulated by its use; a moderate use of animal food, of wine free from acid, and of spirituous liquors diluted with water, tonics and cathartics, as mentioned in the preceding affection are to be employed. Symp-

toms of dyspepsia are to be relieved by the mildest emetics : issues should be inserted, and cold be avoided.

CHAPTER XXV.

Podagra Retrocedens, or Retrocedent Gout.

SYMPTOMS.

The inflammation attacks the joints in a similar manner as before mentioned, but the pain is not so severe, neither does it continue so long a time, nor does it decrease gradually, but ceases suddenly, the affection attacking some internal part ; than which none more commonly than the stomach, whence arise anxiety, great sickness, vomiting, a violent pain, and a sense of coldness ; the heart is sometimes affected, whence syncope ; sometimes the lungs, whence asthma ; and sometimes the head, whence apoplexy or paralysis.

Cure.

If the stomach is affected, it must be instantly relieved by warm wine and aromatics given freely : if these should not prove sufficiently

powerful, ardent spirits, sulphuric ether, spirit, ammon, succinat, and the like must be used ; when the attack is not very violent, the tinct. asafœtida, carbonate of ammonia, musk, the opiate confection, &c. If vomiting should accompany, it is at first to be excited by hot wine and water, then by pure wine, afterwards opiates must be given : if diarrhœa arises, light broth, and afterwards opiates : if the lungs are the part affected, opiates, antispasmodics and blisters ; when it attacks the head, blisters are the most probable remedies, and issues or setons in the neck and extremities ; the legs should be rubbed with flour of mustard ; and aromatics, as the carbonate of ammonia, and the like should be given.



CHAPTER XXVI.

Podagro Aberrans, or Misplaced Gout.

CHARACTER.

Inflammation of an internal part, the inflammation of the joints either not preceding, or preceding, and suddenly receding.

Cure.

In this case the disease is to be treated by bleeding, and the other remedies adapted to the idiopathic inflammation of such part. †

† This species of gout appears to be a form of some of the phlegmasiæ supervening in a gouty habit. It should be treated as such, observing however that in this case evacuations must be more cautiously employed than in other subjects.

ORDER III.

Exanthemata, or Eruptive Fevers,

CHARACTER.

Contagious diseases, generally affecting the subject but once in his life, commencing with fever; at a certain time numerous small eruptions appearing scattered over the skin.



CHAPTER I.

Variola benigna, or Distinct Small-pox.

SYMPTOMS.

About the middle of the day a nausea, vomiting and drowsiness come on, with chilliness, feverishness and languor, followed by heat and pain in the head, back and epigastrium (particularly

where pressed on by the fingers ;) on the approach of the eruption, children are sometimes attacked with convulsions: generally on the third day, certain distinct pustules arise, at first on the face, afterwards on the other parts of the body; and the symptoms are then alleviated, on the fifth day the eruption being completed, they cease altogether; the pustules become more conical every day; at first they are dully white then of a yellow colour; the skin between them being very red: the face swells and the eyes are sometimes closed, about the eleventh day they attain their full size, and then fall off in crusts: the swelling of the face now subsides, and the hands and feet become swollen. When the pustules are very numerous, a difficulty of swallowing, hoarseness, and a salivation comes on about the sixth or seventh day, and the fever reappears about the tenth day; but the whole of these symptoms go off entirely on the subsidence of the swelling of the face and drying up of the pustules.

Cause.

Specific contagion.

Diagnosis.

The pain on pressing on the epigastrium and the other symptoms will distinguish the above from all other diseases, particularly should it rage epidemically.†

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen is to be strictly enforced; cold and pure air must be freely admitted; mercurial cathartics before the sixth day are to be administered, cold water and refrigerating diluents made grateful by acids are to be allowed liberally; fomentations to the legs; if a phlogistic diathesis be present,‡ venesections and

† The chicken pox is the only disease likely to be confounded with the present one, in the former, the pustules generally recede without suppurating. They differ also in number size and appearance as will be noticed hereafter.

‡ Topical blood-letting may be employed with propriety, where coma, delirium, severe inflammation of the eyes and great difficulty of breathing prevail, but severe bloodletting is an hazardous practice, the fever which in the first stage is synocha, will suddenly degenerate into typhoid if the antiphlogistic treatment be too freely employed.

emetics ; if convulsions should come on, opiates ; if on the perfection of the eruption much fever should arise, mild cathartics, and antimonials to excite nausea, must be used ; if the fauces should become much swollen, gargles and blisters to the neck ; if great debility supervene, bark and wine ; after the fifth day, opiates may be given once or twice a day, with great advantage.

CHAPTER II.

Variola Maligna or Confluent Small Pox.

SYMPTOMS.

In this a violent pyresia and an almost constant vomiting, precede the eruption, a frequent weak and contracted pulse and sometimes convulsions accompany; a diarrhœa sometimes precedes the eruption, and continues for a day or two after its appearance ; mostly on the second day numerous pustules show themselves irregular in shape, pale and slightly elevated, and the vesicles coalescing, after the appearance of this eruption all the

symptoms, save the vomiting, continue, in the progress of the disease the febrile symptoms increase, and delirium or coma supervene; the face becomes much swollen, and a great difficulty of swallowing and a salivation arises; in children a diarrhœa supersedes the salivation; the pustules progressing to maturity, become full and flacid; their tops are depressed and appear black; they never proceed to true suppuration, but pour forth an humour and fall off in brown or black crusts, leaving pits in the skin; erysipeles often precedes or accompanies the eruption: in violent attacks of the disease, petechiæ, bloody urine and hæmorrhages appear.

Prognosis.

An acute pain in the side or stomach after the eruption; the swelling of the face suddenly subsiding, the pustules on the face and breast running much together great difficulty of breathing or swallowing; great prostration of strength: hæmorrhages and other signs of putridity are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

The strength is to be supported by bark,

wine, opium, the mineral acids, cordials and nourishing diet, and blisters and the other remedies adapted to typhus are to be freely employed. If before the eruption comes out the skin should be preternaturally hot, and the other symptoms of the disease very violent, may not the cold† affusion be used, or an emetic if danger of strangulation exists?

CHAPTER III.

Varicella or Chicken Pox.

SYMPTOMS.

Pustules breaking out after a short febrile affection, as those of the small pox, but seldom proceeding to suppuration; after a few days continuance falling off in scabs and leaving no mark.

† The cold regimen should be here also adopted from the first attack. The employment of it and the cold affusion must however be entirely regulated by the temperature of the patient, or by carrying it too far, we may do much mischief.

Diagnosis.

It is known from small pox by the lightness of the fever, by the eruption in the first instance appearing on the back,† and by its scaling off in four or five days.

Cure.

This affection is devoid of danger, rarely requiring the aid of a physician; the desquamation being completed, a gentle cathartic may be administered.



CHAPTER IV.

Rubeola or Meazles.

SYMPTOMS.

Pyresia; alternate chills and heat precede the attack: a want of appetite, vomiting and often a diarrhœa; from the commencement, most generally a dry cough, hoarseness, difficulty of breath-

† This is not always the case, but when it occurs it is an excellent distinguishing mark, as the small pox always appears first, in the face, neck or breast.

ing, sneezing, heaviness of the eyes, continual drowsiness, a discharge of an acrid humour from the eyes, with swelling heat and redness of their lids with a flow of mucus from the nose accompany; anxiety, oppression of the chest, and a painful itching of the face immediately precede the eruption: small red spots resembling the bites of fleas generally appear on the face on the fourth day, gradually running together, scarcely raised above the skin, and diffusing themselves over the whole body, after six days falling off in small perforaceous scales. The symptoms save the vomiting are not alleviated by the coming out of the eruption but continue through the course of the disease, and the desquamation being completed, the fever, dyspnœa, cough drowsiness and other symptoms become aggravated and a diarrhœa arises.

Cause.

Specific contagion.

Diagnostic.

The sneezing, discharge from the nostrils, eyes, cough and dyspnœa will distinguish this disease from all others.

Prognosis.

The fever and difficulty of breathing being slight, the eruption appearing early, a gentle diarrhœa, moderate perspiration, a liberal and copious expectoration are favourable symptoms. The unfavourable are a vomiting continuing after the appearance of the eruption; inflammation of the lungs attended by a symptomatic diarrhœa; great lassitude; severe fixed pains antecedent to the eruption, constant pain in the head and eyes; petichiaë; papulæ suddenly receding, especially if pneumonia, affection of the throat, or delirium should succeed.

Cure.

General and topical blood-letting according to the violence of the fever, cough and difficulty of breathing, but it is seldom required before the desquamation takes place; cathartics as the phosphate of soda, supertartrate of potash, and senna, tamarinds, &c., laxative enemata, mild diaphoretics, as the antimonial tartar in nauseating doses: the neutral salts, warm diluent drinks, bland demulcents, mild expectorants,

foot baths, †blisters to the side and between the shoulders; if an inflammatory diathesis should not exist, opiates; the disease having now its course, repeated cathartics: if symptoms of pneumonia should supervene, venesection and the other remedies adapted to it: if a diarrhœa should be troublesome, ‡ blood-letting: if signs of putridity should appear, bark, wine, aromatic confection, &c. are to be liberally employed.



CHAPTER V.

Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever.

SYMPTOMS.

It generally appears on the approach of winter,

† If we employ them under the idea of removing the fever we shall be constantly disappointed; but to remove particular local affections as difficulty of breathing, pain in the side etc. their employment will be very serviceable.

‡ It is a remarkable fact that blood-letting will often remove certain symptoms remaining after measles, which under other circumstances it has no controul over, as cough unaccompanied by inflammatory symptoms diarrhœa etc.

with fits of heat and cold, and the other symptoms of synocha, on the fourth day the face becomes somewhat swollen; a florid redness soon after covers the whole skin at length forming large coalescing stains, after the third day changing into perpuraceous scales, anasarsa then supervening several times and generally going off quickly.

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen; the extremes of heat and cold being avoided: or the desquamation being perfected, purgatives; if convulsions should arise in children, blisters and opiates.



CHAPTER VI.

Scarlatina Anginosa or Scarlet Fever with Ulcerated sore Throat.

SYMPTOMS.

Unwonted lassitude, dejection, head-ache, constriction of the throat, rigidity of the muscles of the neck; shivering chills, and the other symptoms of pyrexia show themselves; on the second day a difficulty of swallowing; loss of appetite;

nausea and sometimes vomiting supervene ; respiration becomes oppressed interrupted by sighs, the breath is hot and burning, the skin dry, hot, and pungent and great restlessness prevails ; the pulse frequent, small and weak ; the bowels natural : the tonsils become swelled, red, and sometimes covered with white crusts ; generally on the third day a bright redness covers the whole body, vanishing on pressure but quickly returning ; the skin becomes glossy and swollen ; sometimes a few broad livid spots appear about the breast ; after the third day a desquamation of the cuticle takes place, anasarsa then often supervening.

Cause.

Contagion.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from measles by the absence of cough, discharge from the nose, flow of tears and sneezing : from small pox, by the absence of pain on pressing on the epigastrium.

Prognosis.

Delirium, the eyes inflamed and glossy, the efflorescence appearing suddenly, and diarrhoea, are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

Blood-letting is generally prejudicial ; the repeated employment of emetics is of the highest advantage ; cordials, as the contrayerva, camphorated mixture, &c., diuretics, as the carbonate of potash and ammonia, gargles, diaphoretics, particularly the antimonial tartar in small doses, to excite nausea ; the pediluvium, warm bath and antiphlogistic regimen ; afterwards the bark, and preparations of iron : if debility with coma, should continue, blisters ; in adematous swellings, squills, submuriate of mercury, alkaline salts, and digitalis, and this affection being removed, tonics, as bark, wine, and the preparations of iron, a nourishing diet and exercise. Might not the cold† effusion or the vegetable and mineral acids be of service ? a gentle diaphoresis being previously excited.

† The propriety of the use of the cold effusion would appear to be more doubtful in this than in other fevers. Dr. Currie however in his work on this subject mentions his having employed it several times, by mistaking the disease and that in each case so treated, the disease that followed was singularly mild.

CHAPTER VII.

Pestis, or the Plague.

SYMPTOMS.

It generally commences in the same manner as Typhus Fever, the cold paroxysm generally attacks the patient more violently than in the continued fever, great heat of the internal parts prevails, the patient is affected with a writhing of the body, mental derangement, tinnitus aurium, confusion of the head like ebriety, the countenance expressive of horror, the eyes† red, wandering, and prominent, violent pain in the head, watchfulness, delirium and sometimes coma accompany, great prostration of strength, dejection and anxiety supervene, oppression at the chest, difficult respiration, constant nausea and bilious vomitings, and a bilious fetid diarrhœa, harass the miserable sufferer: the pulse is frequent, weak and irregular, sometimes however it is more hard and full; the thirst is immoderate; the tongue gene-

† The eyes are not red as in other fevers, but assume a very remarkable and singular appearance, being muddy and at the same time lustrous.

rally white, but sometimes black; the urine pale and bloody or red and turbid: buboes sooner or later, (with a preceding itching of the part) vibices, carbuncles and petechiæ appear, and the patient is seized with faintings, twitching of the tendons and convulsions.

Cause.

Contagion.

Prognosis.

The favourable symptoms are, the patient's strength not being much depressed, a light universal sweat with a strong and regular pulse, allaying the anxiety nausea and vomiting; the appearance of buboes and carbuncles attended by a remission of the fever: The unfavourable symptoms are; immoderately intense heat, profuse debilitating sweats; an early appearance of large black petechiæ; great and sudden prostration.

Cure.

Bleeding is to be cautiously employed; emetic medicines at first to excite vomiting and afterwards nausea;† diluents; refrigerants; the anti-

† Saline cathartics should now be administered.

phlogistic regimen ; the greatest cleanliness and continual ventilation of the apartment; bark wine, and other tonics adapted to Typhus gravior ; cold water is to be drank liberally ; anointing the whole body with olive oil : or perhaps the cold effusion ? or mercury so as to produce a light salivation ?



CHAPTER VIII.

Erysipelas.

SYMPTOMS.

Pyrexia, accompanied by drowsiness, delirium or coma ; the pulse frequent full and hard : on the second or third day an eruption of a florid colour appears, vanishing on pressure, its course being irregular, spreading over the face and covering the neck, an evident swelling sometimes closing the eyelids, a burning pain terminating in scales or serous vesicles of the cuticle ; on the appearance of the inflammation in the face, the fever does not always remit, but often increases with the inflammation, and continues for eight or ten days ; the eyelids sometimes suppurate ; the coma and delirium increasing, the patient dies on the seventh, ninth, or eleventh day.

Cause.

Increased sensibility and irritability ; cold ; acrid substances applied to the surface, suppression of accustomed evacuations, former attacks of erysipelas.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from scarlatina anginosa, by the pain, redness and swelling of the fauces and tonsils.

Prognosis.

Violent fever ; coma or delirium are unfavourable symptoms ; the disease is favourably terminated without any evident crisis taking place.

Cure.

If an inflammatory diathesis prevails, blood-letting ; emetics to excite vomiting† and nausea ; the antiphlogistic regimen, diluents, topical applications as oatmeal, starch, cabbage leaves, etc. if delirium or stupor should prevail fomentations

† In erysipelas of the face emetics are perhaps dangerous or at best very doubtful remedies.

and blisters to the head, if signs of putridity appear, wine, opium and bark, the head must be kept erect, if gangrene should threaten, may not musk and the carbonate of ammonia in large doses? or bark in considerable quantities in every stage of the disease be given with advantage?

CHAPTER IX.

Miliaria or Miliary Fever.

SYMPTOMS. —

Synochus; oppression at the chest, anxiety, frequent sighing, rank sweat, a pricking sensation of the skin; on an uncertain day of the disease numerous small red spots of the size of millet seeds, break out on all parts of the body except the face, their points after a day or two forming into little white pustules which continue a short time and fall off in scales.

Causes.

Debility; a stimulating regimen, the period of child-birth.

Diagnosis.

It may be distinguished from all the other exanthemata by the rank odour of the sweat.

Prognosis.

Petechiæ appearing between the pustules great debility or signs of putridity, the eruption striking in, and delirium or coma supervening, are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

The low regimen ; a free admission of cool air, if debility or putrid symptoms attend, bark, wine, opium and blisters, if an inflammatory diathesis is present,† venesection &c.

† Mild cathartics will answer our intention in this case, particularly when aided by laxative injections, which will be far preferable to blood-letting, as not tending so much to induce that debility which we wish particularly to guard against.

CHAPTER X.

Urticaria or Nettle Rash.

CHARACTER.

On the second day of the fever red blotches like the stings of nettles, disappearing in the day time and returning with fever in the evening and after a few days terminating in minute scales.

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen; it scarcely ever requires the aid of medicine, after the desquamation has taken place, a gentle purgative should be given.



CHAPTER XI.

Penphigus or vesicular Eruption.

SYMPTOMS.

Pyrexia; on the second or third day of the attack small vesicles arise on the internal and ex-

† The vesicles are not as regular in their appearance and course as the above sentence would imply. In some cases they have not appeared till the fourth and fifth days disappearing after some days continuance.

ternal parts, of the size of almonds, preceded by an itching and filled with a yellow matter, continuing three or four days, and at length† pouring out a thin ichor.

Cure.

The primæ viæ are to be evacuated by an emetic and purgative ; afterwards tonics, cordials, antiseptics, and gargles are to be administered.



CHAPTER XII.

Apthæ or the Thrush.

CHARACTER.

The tongue somewhat swollen ; a purple colour of the tongue and fauces, eschars at first appearing in the throat and on the outer edges of the tongue, occupying the whole of the inside of the

† The ichor is as often absorbed as discharged.

A decoction of radishes sweetened with honey may be given to children with a two-fold advantage, as it will act on the eschar in the mouth and all through the alimentary canal and will be taken by them without trouble or disgust.

mouth, and sometimes the alimentary canal, of a white colour, sometimes distinct, often running together, falling off and quickly reforming and continuing for an uncertain period, generally attended with slight fever.

Cure.

Absorbents ; mild laxatives ; emetics are sometimes useful, topical applications, as two scruples or a drachm of borax to an ounce of honey, of which a little is to be applied frequently with a camel's hair pencil : should the disease become worse, cordials, bark, opiates, and blisters.

ORDER IV.

*Hæmorrhagiæ or Involuntary discharges of
Blood.*

CHARACTER.

Pyrexia with a flow of blood not caused by external violence ; the blood discharged exhibiting similar appearances, as in Phlegmasiæ.

CHAPTER I.

Hæmorrhagia or a Flow of Blood.

SYMPTOMS.

More or less of the following symptoms precede the flow of blood ; fullness, tightness, heat, or sense of weight in the part, or its vicinity, sometimes a slight, at others a severe sense of

coldness comes on, accompanied by rigors and shivering, sometimes by nausea and vomiting: these symptoms gradually subside and a preternatural increase of heat succeeds, the pulse becomes full, frequent, hard and strong, and a gush of blood takes place, which exhibits an inflamed appearance.

Cause.

Universal plethora; diminution or suppression of the accustomed evacuations; a depraved formation of the parts, violent passions of the mind, external heat, violent exercise, ligatures, every thing which accelerates the circulation of the blood, the external application of cold.

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen is to be strictly enforced; external heat must be carefully avoided, refrigerants, particularly acids, the nitrate of potash and infusion of roses, cold drinks, blood-letting, emetics, blisters, astringents†, particularly

† The acetate and other preparations of lead should have been noticed, they being the most powerful and valuable astringents we know of, but caution is necessary against a long continuance of them they should be

alum, catechu, and external cold, must be employed, the inflammatory symptoms being allayed, operates: its return is to be guarded against by a more spare and less nourishing diet, by moderate exercise, particularly on horseback, or sailing; by gentle purgatives, avoiding the remote causes, and by equanimity of temper.

CHAPTER II.

Epistaxis or Hæmorrhage from the Nose.

CHARACTER.

Pain or a sense of weight in the head, redness of the face, itching of the nostrils, with a flow of blood from the nose.

Cure.

When it is not critical it is to be restrained by an erect posture of the body and head, by pressure on the nostrils, by immersion of the head in combined with some tenacious substance to guard against their effects on the stomach and bowels. Digitalis is also a valuable remedy and should be used in doses suited to the urgency of the symptoms.

cold water, in which some muriate of soda has been dissolved, by bits of rags sprinkled with flower or alum and inserted into the nostrils, by avoiding all irritation, its return is to be prevented by issues and by the methods before mentioned.†

CHAPTER III.

Hemoptysis or a Spitting of Blood.

CHARACTER.

Redness of the cheeks ; a sense of oppression or pain and sometimes of heat in the breast, espe-

† A blister to the back of the neck will put a stop to a violent and obstinate hæmorrhage from the nostrils and should therefore be early employed.

Though we may succeed in stopping the external flow of blood, the patient is often in danger of suffocation from the inward hæmorrhage continuing, or vomiting will be induced in consequence of the quantity of blood received into the stomach ; here it is necessary to employ pressure from behind, we must pass a pliable eyed probe armed with strong silk threads through the nostrils into the throat and catching the thread with the forceps tie bits of sponge firmly to them and draw them up behind the uvula, till we find they are in contact with the bleeding vessels, then with-draw the probe and cut away the threads from it.

cially under the sternum, a saltish taste in the mouth, difficult breathing, tickling in the fauces, sometimes nausea and vomiting, a severe cough, or a short one throwing up florid and often frothy blood.

Causes.

The predisposing are a certain time of life, viz. between the 16th and 35th year; a sanguineous temperament, over sensibility, suppression of accustomed evacuations, former hæmorrhages, hereditary predisposition, marked by a long neck, tall stature, flat and narrow chest, depressed scapulæ, and all the remote causes of hæmorrhages.

Diagnosis.

A flow of blood from the fauces is not attended by cough; a vomiting of blood is known by its blackness, by the contents of the stomach being mixed with it and by the absence of cough.

Prognosis.

The prognosis is more favourable, if on the ceasing of the spitting no pain in the thorax, difficulty of breathing or cough should remain, or if it should arise from external violence, or in con-

sequence of some suppressed evacuation without the predisposing causes.

Cure.

The antiphlogistic regimen is to be strictly employed; bleeding according to the violence of the symptoms, cooling aperients, blisters, gentle† emetic medicines, a spoonfull of common salt, astringents, quietude of the body and mind, and the other remedies spoken of in the cure of hæmorrhages: after the febrile symptoms have subsided, may not the bark, sulphuric acid and opium? or the immersion of the body to the pubes in cold water be of service?

CHAPTER IV.

Phthisis or Pulmonary Consumption.

SYMPTOMS.

More or less of the symptoms now to be enumerated often precede the attack of Phthisis, slight fever increased by the least exertion, the palms of the hands are hot and void of sweat,

† By “vomitoria,” the author of course means them to be given in such doses as only to excite diaphoresis.

especially on the approach of evening, the eyes moist after sleep ; the quantity of urine increased ; the skin of the feet dry, particularly towards morning ; flushing of the cheeks ; hoarseness ; slight or acute pain in the breast ; a fixed pain in one side, or a lancinating one in both ; head ache ; great dejection of spirits ; loss of appetite ; universal dislike to exercise or motion : afterwards the symptoms denoting the confirmed disease come on, namely, a more or less violent cough, increased by the slightest cause ; hoarseness ; a sense of weight and constriction in the anterior part of the thorax, particularly after motion : the lying on one side is more difficult than on the other, and the respiration is more impeded ; the pulse from the commencement is full, quick and hard, respiration much quicker than in health and performed with a sound like sighing ; the cough becomes gradually worse towards evening, is very troublesome through the night, and an expectoration of mucus and afterwards of pus takes place. These symptoms are accompanied by wandering pains through the side and thorax ; by lassitude and asperity of temper ; the appetite for food is diminished and vomiting often arises after meals : and now the body is emaciated, a quantity of purulent spit is thrown up, varying in colour, white, yellowish, greenish,

sometimes streaked with blood and tasting as if a putrid substance, and the true hectic supervenes, exacerbations of which occur twice in the twenty-four hours; one less marked about noon, the other before midnight, a sense of languor and coldness preceding them; these accessions continue for some hours, accompanied by heat and intense thirst; the cough becoming more troublesome, and the spitting less free; towards morning sweats more or less profuse break out, weakening the patient extremely; the urine deposits a light branny sediment, and all the symptoms are somewhat alleviated, the skin only remaining dry; the tongue and fauces become red as if slightly inflamed, or are covered with aphthæ; a cadaverous paleness occupies the face excepting a small circumscribed spot on each cheek; the disease proceeding, the tunica adnata appears of a pearly colour, a colliquative diarrhœa alternating with sweats arises; the feet become adematous, the hair falling off, the nails becoming incurvated, (the mind still elated with hope) demonstrate the total loss of strength, and friendly death steps in to close the scene.

Causes.

The predisposing causes are an hereditary predisposition; malformation of the thorax; a

long neck; high shoulders; narrow chest; a sanguineous temperament; scrofula; over-sensibility; measles; repelled eruptions; immoderate evacuations; the blood being superoxygenated; extraneous substances in the lungs.† The occasional causes are hæmoptysis, catarrh, asthma, pneumonia, tubercles, and contagion.

Prognosis.

In incipient phthisis the prognosis is doubtful, our opinion must be formed by the violence of the hectic fever, the debility, the nature of the matter spit up, and by the other symptoms being more or less urgent.

Cure.

Blood letting in the first stage according to the strength of the patient; a diet composed of milk and vegetables; emetics of ipecacuanha and the sulphate of zinc in every stage of the disease; the low regimen; blisters; setons: the nitrate of potash in doses of ten or fifteen grains; exercise in a cold and dry air: in the second stage the diet should be cordial and stimulating, principally consisting of Iceland moss, shell-fish and the like; digitalis; exercise, as sailing or on horseback; change of climate; avoidance of

† Syphilis; tumours and other affections of the abdominal viscera occasioning pressure on the diaphragm.

crowded rooms, &c : inhalation of the vapour of sulphuric ether and hemlock ; factitious airs ; in the third stage natural balsams ; the mineral acids ; solutions of the supercarbonate of potash and soda ; opiates, and the other remedies, before mentioned or bark, or lime water, or digitalis and mercury, given in such doses as that the increased action of the arterial system may in the first place be lessened, and the system be afterwards lightly affected by the ‡mercury. §

† Where the remissions are well marked, the disease assuming more of the intermittent than the hectic type, the bark will be found serviceable ; when we find the exacerbations dyspnœa and anxiety increased, we must desist from the use of it.

‡ In those cases occasioned by induration or enlargement of the abdominal viscera, or in the incipient stage of phthisis attended with a scrofulous affection of the mesenteric glands, an alterative course of mercury will probably be of much benefit : it may also tend to disperse indolent tubercles.

§ In incipient phthisis the solution of the muriate of Barytes has been much extolled by some practitioners. Its good effects have been proved in cases of scrofula, and it is therefore reasonable to expect much benefit from it in this complaint. The dose of the solution is at first, five or six drops, increased gradually to thirty, twice or three times a day.

CHAPTER V.

Hæmorrhoids, or Piles.

SYMPTOMS.

A sense of weight or pain in the head, giddiness, nausea, pain in the back and anus, vivid painful tubercles about the anus, from which there is generally a flow of blood: it sometimes also trickles from the anus when there is no apparent tumour, the bowels are generally costive and attended with fever.

Causes.

Advanced age, plethora, costiveness, immoderate eating and drinking, gout, biliary obstructions, prolapsus ani, immoderate use of purging medicine and whatever impedes the return of the venous blood, relaxation of the rectum and torpor of its vessels.

Cure.

If the pain should be violent and the parts swelled, leeches should be applied to them, and fomentations afterwards: if costiveness prevail, the bowels must be opened by laxatives, of which

the best are sulphur, castor oil, supertartrate of potash, balsam of Copaiba, electuary of senna, and the like; external astringents, as galls, oak bark, cold bathing; internal astringents: if it should arise from the protrusion of the rectum it must in the first instance be returned to its proper situation, and its further descent prevented by remedies suited to the cause of its production: plethora is to be removed by the method as spoken of under hæmorrhagia and the remote causes are to be avoided.

CHAPTER VI.

Menorrhagia, or immoderate flow of the Menses.

SYMPTOMS.

Pains in the back, loins and uterus, like those of child birth; a more than ordinarily copious flow of the menstrual discharge from the vagina, accompanied by fever, dyspnæa and pain in the head, together with great debility of the system.

Causes.

Plethora, spirituous liquors, highly seasoned food, violent exercise, contusions on the lower belly, violent sprains, strong emotions of the mind, laxity and debility of the system, excess of venery, frequent abortions, difficult labour, constipated bowels, cold applied to the feet, immoderate tea drinking; the proximate cause is an increased action of the vessels of the uterus, their laxity and rupture.

Prognosis.

A great quantity of blood suddenly discharged, cold sweats, and convulsions portend the greatest danger.

Cure.

If symptoms of Plethora exist, bloodletting, the antiphlogistic regimen, quietude of the body and mind, and avoidance of heat, spare diet, mild laxatives, injections, refrigerants, the bed should be hard and lightly covered with clothes, internal astringents as the acetate of lead, alum, kino,

catechu, bark and infusion of roses, external applications as cloths wetted in cold water and vinegar, or a strong decoction of oak bark applied to the back and pudendæ; sedatives combined with astringents, blisters to the abdomen; in the intervals the remote causes are to be avoided, and tonics, as bark, preparations of iron, moderate exercise and the cold bath are to be employed.



CHAPTER VII.

Leucorrhœa or the Whites.

SYMPTOMS.

A flow of various coloured fluid from the vagina without any topical affection of the uterus, accompanied by continual pain in the back and hips, conjoined with or presently followed by menorrhagia, debilitating the whole system, particularly the functions of the stomach, pyrexia, dyspnœa, or a swelling of the eyelids accompanying.

Causes.

The causes are frequent child-bearing without suckling; difficult parturitions, menorrhagia, and all the causes producing it.†

Cure.

Astringents, as logwood and the others spoken of in the preceding chapter: astringent injections into the vagina, stimulants as cantharides, oil of turpentine, balsam of Copaiba &c. tonics, particularly bark, preparations of iron, sulphate of zinc, and the cold bath; a few grains of Rhubarb with a grain of opium every night for some months, a burgundy-pitch plaister should be applied to the loins, and the patient wear a flannel petticoat.

† A diagnosis between this disease and blenorhagia appears necessary. In blenorhagia the discharge of matter is constant; attended with ardor urinæ, inclination to venery, itching of the pudenda, and swelling of the labiæ, sometimes, or frequently with swellings in the groins. In leucorrhæa the discharge is not constant, often coming away in lumps and large quantities, and not accompanied nor preceded by inflammation of the pudendæ.

CHAPTER VIII.

† *Amenorrhæa or obstruction of the menstrual discharge.*

SYMPTOMS.

Dyspepsia ; the desire for food is either diminished or depraved, paleness and discolouration of the skin, the eyes appear sunk and surrounded by a dark circle, the lips lose their healthy redness, the veins appear flacid, an œdematous swelling of the body, extreme debility, hurried respiration, particularly on motion, pains in the loins, hips and head, palpitation, faintings, retension of the menses : (chlorosis of authors.)

Causes.

A weakened action of the uterine vessels arising from debility and relaxation of the system.

† Amenorrhæa is of two kinds, the one called retention, where the menstrual fluid does not appear at the period of life when it should naturally appear ; the other suppression, where having appeared it ceases to return at the usual periods. The former of these we are now considering.

Cure.

The tone of the system is to be restored by all kinds of exercise, by the cold bath, by tonics, particularly preparations of iron, myrrh, carbonate of potash conjoined with aromatics, the action of the uterus is to be excited by cathartics, as aloes, submuriate of mercury, and the like, by walking, dancing, foot baths, friction, tepid fomentations to the hypogastric region, by electricity, compression of the iliac arteries, and above all by marriage : or diluted oxygen gas † The madder appears to me to possess some efficacy.†

CHAPTER IX.*Suppressio Mensium or Suppression of the Menses.***SYMPTOMS.**

Pain in the back and loins ; symptoms of dyspepsia and hysteria, costive bowels, colic pains, hæmorrhages from various parts of the body.

† May not the ergol be employed with advantage in these cases?

Causes.

Spasm or too great rigidity of the extremities of the uterine vessels : atony and debility of the whole system.

Cure.

If plethora should exist, bleeding, but not otherwise ; the constriction of the vessels is to be removed by the hot bath, by fomentations to the region of the pubes, by cathartics, opiates, and antispasmodics ; these not availing, the medicines prescribed in the foregoing chapter are to be employed ; † these medicines will prove of more service if they are employed at the time that the efforts of the system concur : ‡ In cases of dysmenorrhœa or (difficult menstruation) opiates, the hot bath, the general foot bath and warm diluents must be used.

† The tincture of cantharides is an excellent irritating emmenagogue and may be employed in doses of, from 30 to 100 drops, twice or thrice a day.

‡ We must be careful to discriminate between those cases which are dependent on a relaxed habit, and those consequent on a constriction of the vessels of the uterus. In the former, forcing or emmenagogue medicines will be highly improper. They can alone be relieved by chalybeates and other tonics.

CHAPTER X.

Hæmatemesis or Vomiting of blood.

CHARACTER.

A rejection by vomiting of a dark coloured grumous blood mixed with the contents of the stomach, nausea, a sense of pain and weight preceding the attack.

Causes.

Plethora; suppressed evacuations of blood, tumors pressing on the spleen or liver, external violence.

Cure.

This disease is generally symptomatic; if the hæmorrhage should be violent and plethora exist, venesection and the other remedies adapted to hæmorrhages must be employed; in general, astringents, and tonics, as bark, preparations of iron, and opium are useful; if it arises from suppressed evacuations, they must be restored; if from tumors pressing on the liver or spleen; mercury, hemlock, &c.

CHAPTER XI.

Hæmaturia or voiding of blood by Urine.

CHARACTER.

This is generally a symptomatic disease, arising from a calculus lacerating the kidney, from suppressed hæmorrhoids or from a putrescent state of the blood.

Cure.

If it should arise from a calculus; mild laxatives, the antiphlogistic regimen, demulcents and alkaline waters are to be used: if from suppressed hæmorrhoids, the remedies suited to that disease: if from putridity, antiseptics: a bit of rag dipped in the urine will be tinged of a red colour.

ORDER V.

Profluvia or Fluxes with Pyrexia.

CHARACTER.

Fever; with an increased excretion not naturally bloody.



CHAPTER I.

Catarrhas, or Catarrh.

SYMPTOMS.

Pyrexia, oftentimes contagious, heaviness or pain in the head, the nostrils stuffed up, impeding the passage of the air through them, an increased excretion of mucus from the glands of the membranes of the nostrils, fauces and bronchiæ; sometimes a sneezing, and a distension, (as it

were) of the eyes ; a flow of tears ; redness, heat, swelling of the fauces ; soreness of the trachea ; hoarseness ; a sense of tightness in the thorax ; difficulty of breathing ; a severe cough, at first dry, afterwards moist, attended with a discharge of mucus.

Cause.

The remote causes are cold applied to the body, and sometimes contagion : the proximate, is an increased afflux of humours to the mucous glands of the nostrils, fauces and bronchiæ, accompanied by an inflammatory disposition.

Prognosis.

Catarrh is for the most part devoid of danger, but in old persons it sometimes induces chronic pneumonia, and in those predisposed it appears to create phthisis.

Cure.

Generally nothing further is requisite than abstinence from animal food ; mild warm diluents ; but if an inflammatory diathesis should exist, blood letting ; the antiphlogistic regimen, laxatives, demulcents ; diaphoretics, as Dover's powders or the antimonial tartar ; to excite nausea

only, mild expectorants and blisters are to be employed : the phlogistic diathesis being removed opiates ; a little oil should be rubbed into the nose.

CHAPTER II.

Dysenteria or Dysentery.

SYMPTOMS.

Contagious fever, nausea, vomiting, inflation of the intestines, severe gripings, small, frequent mucous, and slimy discharges, or greasy and bloody mixed with membranous particles, the fæces being generally retained or appearing with small indurated pieces, called (scybala :) tenesmus and sometimes hiccough.

Cause.

The remote cause is specific contagion, and the proximate appears to be a spasmodic constriction of the colon.

Prognosis.

The tenesmus and griping being very severe ; the pain suddenly ceasing, with a weak and in-

terminating pulse, the fæces very fetid, great debility, petechiæ, and hiccough are bad omens; a gentle perspiration, the stools less frequent, and the strength not much reduced are favorable symptoms.

Cure.

If a phlogistic diathesis should exist, bleeding; emetics; they will be more efficacious, if they act, not only by vomiting, but by stool also; repeated cathartics, especially the sulphate of soda and castor oil; phosphate of soda, &c.: and each night after the use of the cathartics, opiates, and above all, Dover's powders or opium, and large enemata of starch or lintseed; mucilaginous demulcents, fomentations, semicupia, blisters, milk and rice diet; before the inflammatory symptoms are removed, the tone of the intestines is to be restored by tonics, as bark, simarauba, quassia, camomile, columbo, gentian, and the like. The disease resisting these means, may we not try the submuriate of mercury, so as to excite a slight salivation? or the extract of nux vomica in doses of a grain and a half every second hour? If the fever should assume the intermittent type, the bark must be freely given.†

† It is proper in this place to mention Dr. Moseley's plan of treating dysentery in as much as it differs mate-

CLASS II.

NEUROSES OR NERVOUS DISEASES.

CHARACTER.

The powers of sense and motion affected, without any primary fever, and without local disease.

ORDER I.

COMOTA OR SOPOROSE DISEASES.

Character.

Diminution of the powers of voluntary motion with sleep or suspension of the senses.

rially from the above as well as from the general treatment of this complaint. His plan is in the first place to clear the primæ viæ and then to accomplish the cure by sudorifics. He found it universally successful, and many eminent practitioners after him have made trial of and reported highly in its favour—the reader is referred to his “Treatise” on the subject.

CHAPTER I.

Apoplexia or Apoplexy.

CHARACTER.

All the voluntary motions generally abolished, with sleep more or less profound, stertor, swelling and redness of the face, the action of the heart and arteries remaining; sometimes preceded by vertigo, pain in the head, hæmorrhage from the nose, a ringing in the ears, night-mare, and loss of sight, or stupor.

Causes.

The predisposing causes are advanced age, a large head, short neck, great corpulence, a sedentary and slothful life, a too free use of vinous and spirituous liquors, suppression of accustomed evacuations, and intense study: the occasional causes are severe exercise, violent mental affections, external heat, external pressure on the neck, external violence, deep and long inspiration, over distention and laceration of the vessels of the brain.†

† The fumes of narcotic and metallic substances, as opium, charcoal, mephitic airs, &c.

Diagnosis.

It will be distinguished from palsy by the stertor, profound sleep, and diminution of all the voluntary motions.†

Prognosis.

The favorable or unfavorable prognosis is to be determined by the violence of the attack; it is sometimes happily carried off by an hæmorrhage or diarrhœa.

Cure.

A too free use of ‡general blood-letting is prejudicial, but cupping glasses applied to the temples are very useful, also fomentations to the head, slight electric shocks sent through the head, brisk cathartics of colocynth*, aloes, extract of jalap and the like; active enemæ; blisters to the head, back and extremities; mustard cataplasms; the antiphlogistic regimen; an erect

† From epilepsy by the above mentioned symptoms, and by the absence of convulsions.

‡ In sanguineous apoplexy no time should be lost in drawing off blood from the temporal arteries or jugular veins. In serous apoplexy it may be wholly omitted or very sparingly employed, trusting to purgatives and sternutatories, &c.

posture: to prevent its return, the exciting causes are to be avoided and the diet must be less nutritious than usual; abstinence from spirituous liquors; moderate exercise; mild purgatives; setons or issues near the head, or errhines, or opium, or mercury to induce a gentle salivation.†

CHAPTER II.

Paralysis, or Palsy.

SYMPTOMS.

Some of the voluntary motions alone diminished, often attended with sleep; the pulse slow and soft; one side of the body generally affected, hence called hemiplegia‡; most commonly preceded by universal torpor, vertigo, heaviness of the head, mental imbecility, loss of memory, a sense of numbness in the side or part about to be attacked, and sometimes by tremor and pain.

† When the affection arises from narcotics taken into the stomach they must be evacuated as quick as possible by active emetics.

‡ When the complaint occupies a transverse half of the body, it is termed paraphlegia.

Causes.

Compression of the brain from sanguineous or serous effusion or tumors, diminution of the nervous energy ; poisons received into the system ; colica pictonum ; apoplexy and advanced age.

Diagnosis.

It is to be easily distinguished from apoplexy and other diseases by the pulse and other symptoms.

Prognosis.

Heat of the affected part ; the pain slight, a sense of pricking or stinging : Fever or diarrhœa arising, are favourable symptoms.

Cure.

If it should arise from compression of the brain, venesection and the other remedies adapted to apoplexy are to be employed ; when hemiplegia alone remains, external stimulants as blisters, rubefacients ; for instance, tincture of cantharides,

† Pressure on the nerves caused by luxations, fractures, distortion of the spine and thickening of the vertebral ligaments, exposure to the fumes of metals and minerals, handling white lead, &c.

liniment of ammonia, sulphuric ether, &c. are to be used, friction, urtication, electricity and the cold bath, internal stimulants, as pyrethrum, white mustard, horse radish, the arnica montana, volatile salts and mercury, the diet should be nourishing and stimulating, afterwards chalybeate waters.†

† In those cases depending on deformity of the spine, Mr. Pott recommended drains, as issues, &c., to be placed in the vicinity of the part as near to the tumor as possible. This practice in his hands and many other eminent surgeons, has been more successful than any other mode of treatment. Where the poison of lead received into the system is the cause of the disease, mercury should be quickly and actively employed, being the best antidote to that poison.

ORDER II

Adynamia or defect of the Vital Powers.

CHARACTER.

A defective state of the involuntary powers, whether vital or natural.



CHAPTER I.

Syncope or Fainting.

SYMPTOMS.

The motion of the heart diminished or sometimes quiescent, often returning without any manifest cause, with violent palpitations of the heart in the intervals, arising from some defect

of the heart itself, or neighbouring vessels, or from an affection of the whole system, sometimes terminated by vomiting, convulsions, or epilepsy.

Cause.

The proximate cause appears to be a diminished or suspended action of the heart and arteries.

Cure.

During the paroxysm stimulants are to be applied to the nostrils; afterwards tonics; if it should arise from some evident cause, the remedies suited to it must be employed.



CHAPTER II.

Dyspepsia or Indigestion.

CHARACTER.

Loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, distension of the stomach, acid eructations, heart burn, pain in the stomach, anxiety, languor, and low spirits; more or less of these symptoms attacking the patient at once, generally with constipated bowels, and without any other disease of the stomach itself or neighbouring parts.

Causes.

The remote causes are of two kinds, first, those which act immediately on the stomach itself, and secondly those which at first act on the other parts, and at length diffuse their atony to the stomach. Of the first kind are sedatives or narcotics, as opium, spirituous liquors, henbane, tea and coffee, acids, aromatics, excessive eating, frequent vomitings, bitters, hot liquors drank to excess : too great excretion of the saliva. Those which act primarily on the system, are violent affections of the mind, a sedentary life, intense study, excess of venery, moist, cold weather and want of exercise, and ebriety : the proximate cause is atony and debility of the muscular fibres of the stomach.

Cure.

Emetics ; alkaline salts and absorbents, particularly lime water, soap, cathartics composed of aloes, rhubarb or senna conjoined with aromatics or bitters, blisters to the back : afterwards to restore the tone of the stomach, tonics ; such as the preparations of iron, quassia, bark, columbo and gentian : certain symptoms must be alleviated, as distension of the stomach by sulphuric ether, heart burn by sulphuric acid, soap, seltzer

waters or opium ; vomiting† by opiate clysters, anxiety and oppression after eating, by aromatics, as ten grains of black pepper taken immediately‡ after each meal : the diet should consist of animal food ; moderate exercise and the cold bath accelerate the cure : chalybeate and tar-waters are very beneficial ; the occasional causes are to be shunned.§

† If the vomiting is severe the stomach should be first washed out with large draughts of Camomile tea and then a saline draught should be given in the act of effervescence, and repeated occasionally with a few drops of opium or ether.

‡ Will not the effect be more certain if the pepper be given some minutes before the meal ? by giving it after the meal we remove the unpleasant sensation, but by giving it previously, we prevent it.

§ In the memoirs of the "London Medical Society" vol. 5th. and in "Medical Reports" by "Dr. Bardsly" the oxyd of bismuth is spoken of in high terms in the cure of Cardialgia, Pyrosis, gastrodynia and such other affections of the stomach. I have lately employed it in two or three cases, in one where the symptoms were highly aggravated and the disease of some years standing it has been wonderfully successful. Many physicians in this country have also spoken of it in high terms.

CHAPTER III.

Hypochondriasis.

CHARACTER.

Dyspepsia with languor, sadness, a great fear of death, peevishness, and all kinds of groundless apprehensions from trifling causes or originating in the melancholy imagination, the bowels sometimes bound, sometimes loose.

Diagnosis.

Hypochondriasis is distinguished from dyspepsia, by the languor, fear of death, the depraved ideas that constantly attend, and by the symptoms of dyspepsia being less violent or altogether absent; in dyspepsia the symptoms are more urgent and those above mentioned are less violent or altogether wanting, hypochondriasis does not arise in youth, but about or after the thirty fifth year and generally increases with age.

Cure.

A blister is to be applied to the epigastric region or a burgundy pitch plaister to the abdomen, chalybeate waters, the warm bath: but in this

disease (a mental one) the spirits are to be supported by associating with agreeable and lively companions, by exercise particularly on horseback, by field sports, constant change of scene, sailing, by all kinds of pleasing recreation and by guarding against anxiety, the symptoms of dyspepsia are to be removed by the before mentioned methods: a powder containing six grains of rhubarb and one of opium should be given every night and some very simple formula through the day.

ORDER III.

Spasmi or Spasmodic affections.

CHARACTER.

Preternatural motions of the muscles or muscular fibres.



CHAPTER I.

Tetanus (Trismus) or Locked Jaw.

SYMPTOMS.

An acute painful and spasmodic rigidity of the muscles particularly those of the lower jaw ; difficulty of swallowing, a very acute pain under the ensiform cartilage, darting to the spine and thence to the neck and shoulders, its violence increasing in its progress : when the body is in-

curvated backwards, it is called opis thotonos when foward empros thotonos.

Causes.

The causes are cold and moisture applied to the body, when heated, punctures, lacerations, or wounds of the nerves and tendons, various surgical operations.

Prognosis.

The spasms being very violent and frequent portend the greatest danger, the disease terminates favourably without any evident crisis.

Cure.

Wine and opium given liberally, bark, friction with mercurial ointment or sulphuric ether and tincture of opium in equal parts, electricity, but above all the cold bath in the paroxysm of the convulsion: In the trismus of children which arises between the two first and seventh days after birth, the meconium is first to be cleared off, and then the oil of succinum, musk, and the cold bath are to be used.

CHAPTER II.

Chorea, or St. Vitus's dance.

CHARACTER.

Involuntary convulsive motions of a part, arising in the youth of both sexes, generally between the tenth and fourteenth years, and mostly of one side, resembling stage players in the action of their arms and hands, dragging rather than lifting their feet as they walk.

Causes.

Relaxation and debility of the system.†

Cure.

Tonics, such as bark, preparations of iron, copper, and zinc, the cold bath, electricity, dry cupping, antispasmodics, as *bella donna*, opium, mercury, extract of hemlock, &c., or the carbonate of potash.‡

† Various irritations, as worms, teething, acrid matter in the bowels, &c.

‡ Dr. Hamilton, in his work on the "Utility of purgative medicines," informs us that having treated many subjects of chorea in the common way without success,

CHAPTER III.

Epilepsia or Epilepsy.

SYMPTOMS.

It generally attacks suddenly, and sometimes whilst the patient is asleep, though most commonly the patient previous to the paroxysm, feels a sense of universal languor, lassitude, pain in the head, giddiness; shortly after the fit commences with a sense of coldness, as of a cold stream of air ascending to the head, which as soon as it has reached, the patient, if standing at the time, falls, uttering a loud groan: he lies senseless: the muscles of the whole body are convulsed, but those of the face and hands most powerfully; the mouth and eyes are distorted; a frothy matter issues from the nostrils; the pulse at the commencement is quick, slender, and scarcely preceptible, towards the close more full and slow, but still feeble: these symptoms ceasing gradually, the paroxysm goes off, the

he resolved on trying a new plan, and that he consequently found it universally successful, viz. the employment of continued purgative medicines. The reader is referred to his excellent work on the subject for much useful and interesting information.

patient falling asleep, in a short time he returns to his senses not remembering any thing that may have happened during the fit : it frequently terminates in apoplexy.

Causes.

The predisposing causes are, a certain mobility of the nervous system (or sensorium) and hereditary predisposition : the exciting causes are mechanical stimuli, chemical acrid stimuli, irritations of the mind, particularly joy and anger, irritation caused by a distension of the blood vessels within the cranium, worms, dentition, coming out of the eruption of small pox ; whatever diminishes the tension of the vessels of the brain ; profuse hæmorrhages, terror, passion, noxious scents, poisons, and the epileptic aura.

Diagnosis.

It may be distinguished from all kinds of convulsions by the sleep and by all sense of external impressions being absent ; from apoplexy by the voluntary motions being increased ; from hysteria by the sensation of a ball rising to the fauces, and by the other symptoms preceeding that attack being absent.

Prognosis.

The prognosis is more favourable in the symptomatic than in the idiopathic disease ; the disease is less dangerous in young persons than in older ones, because it is apt to go off, in boys at the age of puberty, and in girls on the appearance of the menses; an intermittent fever or cutaneous eruption often terminates it favourably.

Cure.

If the disease should be symptomatic of some other, that must be first attended to and the remedies adapted to it employed ; when plethora exists it is to be removed by the methods already mentioned, by issues and setons ; in the paroxysm internal and external stimulants are to be used ; in the intervals, tonics, as preparations of copper, zinc and iron ; nitrate of silver, oxyd of arsenic, the cold bath and exercise : antispasmodics, as animal oil, rectified oil, of succinum : mercury, sulphuric ether, musk, stramonium, digitalis : but the most powerful of this class is opium, which should be given often through the day for many months : if all our endeavours fail

the diet, mode of life, or place of residence must be changed.†

CHAPTER IV.

Palpitatio or Palpitation.

CHARACTER.

A violent and irregular motion of the heart.

Cause.

Some defect in the heart or its neighbouring vessels ; plethora, debility or mobility of the system.

Cure.

The treatment of this disease consists in finding out the exciting causes, which must then be

† In those cases where the attack is preceded by the epileptic aura, cutting off the communication between the brain and the limb from whence the aura arises, by means of the tourniquet, has in many instances checked the progress, or entirely prevented the accession of the fit.

avoided ; if it should arise from plethora or debility the treatment necessary in those cases must be resorted to.†

CHAPTER V.

Asthma.

SYMPTOMS.

About one or two o'clock in the morning the paroxysm commences with a sense of tightness in the breast ; the breathing is performed with a wheezing sound, the patient is obliged to rise from the bed and fly to the erect posture ; he requires a pure air, the voice becomes weak, and the exertion of speaking is more or less difficult, a cold sweat breaks out on the face and neck, the cough which if any at the commencement of the paroxysm, was laborious, on the approach of morning becomes free and often attended with an expectoration of mucus, the symptoms are then alleviated, but for some days or rather nights, on the approach of night suffer an exacerbation, they afterwards go off entirely for some

† When symptomatic of nervous affections, antispasmodics and tonics should be used.

time ; the pulse is usually quick, weak and small and the urine before pale, deposits a sediment : lassitude, drowsiness, fullness of the stomach, frequent eructations, weight and pain in the head often precede the attack.

Causes.

A humid, cold, and foggy atmosphere ; sudden vicissitudes of weather, retrocedent gout ; fevers, particularly intermittents ; suddenly repressed evacuations ; an hereditary predisposition. The proximate cause appears to depend on aspasmodic constriction of the muscular fibres of the bronchiæ.†

Diagnosis.

By the symptoms first mentioned asthma will be readily distinguished from other diseases.

Prognosis.

The youth of the patient much favours the endeavours of the physician ; the disease often ter-

† Dr. Bree, in his ingenious "treatise on asthma" disputes the justness of this assigned cause. His opinion is "that the true proximate cause of convulsive asthma is irritation in the air cavities arising from an effusion of serum or ærial acrimony." See his Treatise.

minates in phthisis or hydrothorax: the respiration becoming suddenly shortened and paralysis of the arms are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

† Blood letting during the paroxysm unless plethora exists is prejudicial:‡ gentle emetics are very useful as also blisters to the chest; mild clysters, the warm bath, antispasmodics, particularly opium, sulphuric ether and asafœtida: expectorants as squills, tartrite of antimony,§ spermaceti &c. returns of the paroxysms are to be guarded against by change of situation and climate, by a nourishing diet, but mild and free from all flatulent quality; by exercise, avoiding the exciting causes, by issues, tonics, as bark, and preparations of iron: will not the digitalis be useful?

† If even this be the case leeches or cupping glasses to the chest are far preferable.

‡ The administration of an emetic in the paroxysm will produce great danger of suffocation.

§ Oily demulcents are in general injurious.

CHAPTER VI.

Pertussis or Hooping Cough.

SYMPTOMS.

A contagious disease ; a convulsive stifling cough with sonorous inspiration (vulgarly called in England the *Kirick*) repeated by paroxysms, and each terminated by a quantity of mucus being discharged from the lungs, fauces, and nostrils, and again renewed after irregular intervals, pyrexia sometimes accompanying.

Cause.

Contagion.†

Prognosis.

The disease is more violent in children under ten years of age ; a very difficult respiration acute pyrexia particularly if accompanied by symptoms of pneumonia are unfavourable symptoms : a free expectoration, the appetite never destroyed, but increased after vomiting, and a

† The proximate cause is the presence of a viscid matter or phlegm on the surface of the bronchiæ trachea and in the fauces, its close adhesion to which, causes such violent efforts for its expulsion.

slight hæmorrhage from the nose are favourable symptoms.

Cure.

If the difficulty of breathing, or pyrexia should be urgent, general or topical blood-letting: emetics to excite vomiting and nausea; blisters to the thorax, the warm bath, the steam of hot water received into the lungs, antispasmodics, as opium, castor, musk, asafœtida, oil of succinum; but above all, the tincture of lyttæ to excite a slight dysury: tonics as bark, oxyd of zinc: Fowler's solution of arsenic, tincture of digitalis, change of air: during the complaint the bowels should be kept gently open.†

† A new method of cure has been proposed by Dr. Struve of Gorlitz. In the first place he gives an emetic and afterwards directs the following mixture to be rubbed into the region of the stomach every two hours in small quantities each time. The effect of it, the Dr. observes, is that a gentle perspiration is induced, the violence of the cough quickly abates and in a short time the symptoms entirely disappear. In obstinate cases this method is very worthy of trial but with caution in the hands of young practitioners in reference to young and delicate children.

Antimon tartarizat, ℥ii.

Aqua. pur. ℥ii.

Ft. solut. cui adde

Tinct. cantharid: fort. ℥i.

CHAPTER VII.

Pyrosis or Waterbrash.

CHARACTER.

A burning pain and sense of constriction in the epigastric region, increased by the erect posture, generally occurring on an empty stomach, with a discharge of a watery insipid fluid, sometimes acrid eructations.

Causes.

Cold applied to the extremities and violent passions of the mind.

Cure.

During the paroxysm, opium, sulphuric ether, and other antispasmodics, must be administered, afterwards *nux vomica*.†

† The oxyd of bismuth has of late been used with success by some practitioners in Europe.

CHAPTER VIII.

Colica or Colic.

SYMPTOMS.

Pain of the abdomen, twisting particularly around the navel, a retraction of it towards the spine ; spasms of the muscles of the abdomen with numerous lumps, feeling to the touch as a bag filled with apples ; vomiting, constipated bowels, no fever, when the peristaltic motion is inverted, It is called "Ileus" or Iliac passion.

Causes.

The remote causes are cold, indurated fæces, acrid bile, calcareous concretions, poisons received into the system, particularly lead ; flatulence. The proximate cause appears to be a spasmodic contraction of some part of the intestines.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from enteritis by the twisting pain, the retraction of the navel, the pulse, by the absence of fever, and pain on pressure : from hepatitis and nephritis by the symptoms elsewhere spoken of and by the absence of fever.

Prognosis.

The pain shifting or ceasing gradually and the bowels answering to the cathartics are favourable symptoms ; the pain fixed and violent or ceasing suddenly, the bowels obstinately costive, hiccough and delirium are bad omens.

Cure.

Venesection if an inflammatory diathesis exists, according to the state of the pulse and strength of the patient, repeated, unless great debility is present : Antispasmodics, as opium, henbane, the warm bath, fomentations, or vessels filled with hot water and applied to the belly, blisters : gentle cathartics as the sulphate of potash and soda, supertartrite of potash, infusion of senna, castor oil, and if these do not avail, calomel and jalap, or colocynth ; enemas at first mild, afterwards of venice turpentine or the smoke or infusion of Tobacco : all these remedies having been tried in vain, cold water should be poured on the body and legs, or calomel be given by the mouth, or a large quantity of hot water injected per anum ; if the disease should arise from flatus, antispasmodics.

The colica pictonum or (colic from lead) is known by the foregoing sense of weight and uneasiness in the abdomen, particularly about the umbilicus; the colic pain approaching at first lightly, not constant, and particularly increased after eating, afterwards more severe and constant, with pain in the arms and back, at length terminating in paralysis: this affection is to be cured by mercury with opium, given in such quantity as to produce a salivation; by a gentle catharsis the hot bath and other remedies before mentioned; venesection is attended with great danger: in cases of paralysis natural warm springs should be resorted to.

CHAPTER IX.

Cholera, or Vomiting and Purging.

SYMPTOMS.

A vomiting of bilious matter, attended by a frequent purging of the same kind, anxiety, grippings, great prostrations of strength, quick, weak and fluttering pulse, cramps of the legs, generally appearing in the month of August: it is often fatal in twenty-four hours.

Causes.

The remote causes are a hot atmosphere, acrid substances in the stomach, surfeit, eating unripe fruit, miasma arising from marshy grounds, acrid bile. The proximate cause is a spasmodic constriction of the duodenum.

Prognosis.

Sleep occurring on the cessation of the vomiting, or the disease diminishing about the seventh day are favorable indications. The rejected matter being of a dark colour, great thirst and heat, the pulse very weak and intermitting, hiccoughs, faintings and convulsions are unfavourable symptoms.

Cure.

Diluents of hot water or chicken broth are to be given liberally, and injections of the same; afterwards antispasmodics, particularly † opium internally and in clysters; if the spasms of the legs should be violent, anodyne enemæ and fric-

† It is sometimes impracticable to get opium to remain on the stomach in any quantity. In such case a large anodyne plaister may be applied to the region of the stomach, or an embrocation of opium, camphor, and oil may be rubbed into it.

tions with camphorated oil: the disease declining; tonics, antispasmodics and nutritives. †

CHAPTER X.

Diarrhæa, or Looseness.

CHARACTER.

A frequent discharge of natural fæces, mucus, or the ingesta not much changed, with griping nausea and vomiting; not a contagious disease, no primary fever and without tenesmus.

Causes.

The remote causes are cold applied to the feet, a diminished action of the absorbent vessels of the intestines; over-eating; acrid ingesta; suddenly repelled perspiration; putrid effluvia; a too free use of fruit; erythematic inflammation of the coats of the intestines; worms; retrocedent gout and rheumatism. The proximate cause is an increased peristaltic motion of the intestines.

† Diluted sulphuric acid will often allay the irritation of the stomach when nothing else can be retained; it should be employed in large doses, and when the irritation is abated some aperient should be given.

Diagnosis.

Diarrhœa will be distinguished from all other diseases by the symptoms just enumerated.

Cure.

An emetic, and afterwards repeated in such divided doses as to create nausea; diluents, demulcents, as lintseed tea; barley water; decoction of hartshorn, &c.: opiates; astringents, as kino, alum, catechu, extract of logwood and the like; tonics, as Peruvian and angustura bark cascarilla, &c.; absorbents, a diet principally of roasted meat or broths: a diarrhœa accompanying typhus gravior and retrocedent gout is to be treated by the suitable remedies elsewhere mentioned.†

CHAPTER XI.

Diabetes, or an immoderate flow of Urine.

SYMPTOMS.

A great increase of the quantity of urine, at

† When it arises from worms, the remedies adapted to their removal must be used.

first insipid, afterwards of a sweet taste, a greenish colour, equalling or exceeding in quantity the aliment introduced, constant thirst, sometimes a voracious appetite, dryness of the fauces, the skin dry and harsh, feet and toes œdematous, a burning heat of the skin without the slightest perspiration, hectic fever.

Causes.

The causes are all such as debilitate the system, hard drinking, cold applied to the body, excess of venery, too powerful diuretics, immoderate evacuations, former diseases : the proximate cause appears to be a diseased state of the stomach impeding the natural powers of digestion and assimilation.†

Cure.

A diet of rich animal food, vegetables being wholly abstained from ; emetics ; diaphoretics, particularly ipecacuanha and opium ; ‡alkaline

† This was the theory of Dr. Cullen and Dr. Dobson, and is now supported by Dr. Rollo, and some other eminent practitioners ; I believe, however, that the majority of medical men at present consider it as depending on a primary affection of the kidneys.

‡ Possessing such diuretic qualities, they are likely to have an injurious effect on the kidneys.

salts; hydro-sulphuret of ammonia; small † blisters applied to the region of the kidneys; mercurial preparations; camphor; astringents, as powdered galls with lime-water; alum; tonics, anointing the body with oil or some liniment: flannel should be worn next the skin.

CHAPTER XII.

Hysteria, or the Hysterical Disease.

SYMPTOMS.

A murmuring and inflation of the belly; the sensation of a ‡ ball rolling in the abdomen ascending to the stomach, thence to the throat, and there sticking; convulsions, in which the patient strikes her breast violently with her hands; § sleep: these symptoms continuing for some time with alternate fits of laughing and crying a quantity of wind is expelled from the stomach, and with frequent sighs, as if awaking from sleep, the patient recovers her senses and power of mo-

† Would not issues be more effectual in as much as their benefit is more lasting.

‡ The Globus Hystericus of authors.

§ Apparent sleep.

tion; a profuse flow of urine often preceding; no recollection of what occurred during the fit remaining.

Cause.

The remote causes are mobility of the nervous system and many of the causes producing epilepsy; the proximate cause appears to depend on a spasmodic affection of the uterus.

Diagnosis.

It will be distinguished from epilepsy by the profuse flow of urine preceding the attack, by the fear of death, and by the globus hystericus.

Cure.

During the paroxysm if the disease shall have been of long standing, bleeding is prejudicial; but antispasmodics, as opium, castor, camphor, asafoetida internally, and enemas are to be employed, enemas of cold water are to be thrown up; stimulants must be applied to the nostrils, as the spt. ammoniæ, succinat, &c. Its return must be guarded against by bark, preparations of iron, antispasmodics, exercise, and the cold bath.

CHAPTER XIII.

Hydrophobia, or Canine Madness.

SYMPTOMS.

At some uncertain period after the bite a painful tension, redness, and heat attack the part bitten, and at the same time darting pains and spasms arise in it; the patient is seized with languor, lassitude, anxiety, frequent sighing, and love of solitude, and horrible dreams torment him: these symptoms continuing for some time and then becoming worse, a great aversion to, and dread of any kind of liquid supervenes, in as much as the sight of it causes spasms in the throat, a quantity of viscid saliva is spit up; and during the paroxysm a desire of biting attends.

Cure.

To prevent the disease arising, the parts bitten should be cut out instantly, or at farthest before the fourth day, and afterwards the wound washed with hot salt and water; it should be kept open by stimulating applications, as the nitrate of silver, or mercurial ointment rubbed in about the affected part; a gentle salivation is to be ex-

cited ; the disease appearing, wine, musk, oil internally and externally, opium in large quantities, bark : mercurial ointment must be rubbed in so as to excite a quick salivation, may not the cold bath, or the arsenical solution be employed ?†

† The “*Alisma Plantago*” has lately been reported to have proved an antidote to this disease in various parts of Europe. It is to be hoped that no opportunity will be allowed to pass in this country without having recourse to the trial at least of this reported specific. The roots are the parts mentioned as containing the virtue of the plant. For a particular description of it, refer to “*Withering’s Botany*,” or “*Smith’s Flora Britannica*.”

ORDER IV.

Vesaniæ or Mental Diseases.

CHARACTER.

The judgment impaired without pyrexia or coma.



CHAPTER I.

Melancholia or Melancholy Madness.

CHARACTER.

A partial chronic insanity attended by sadness, pensiveness, generally by costiveness and symptoms of dyspepsia; the ravings of the melancholy are unattended by furiousness, and are not accompanied by fever, but most powerfully direc-

ted to one particular subject, they talk about themselves, or their affairs, on other subjects they are generally rational, a desire of suicide attending.

Cause.

An hereditary predisposition : depressing passions of the mind, immoderate evacuations, repeated drunkenness : and a melancholy temperament.

Diagnosis.

Melancholy will be distinguished from hypochondriasis by the symptoms of dyspepsia being absent and by the melancholy delirium before mentioned.

Prognosis.

If it should be owing to an hereditary taint or should have been of long continuance the cure will be attended with difficulty : the disease is sometimes happily carried off by diarrhœa, hæmorrhage, or a cutaneous eruption ; if the patient should be refreshed by sleep, and his mind can be diverted from melancholy reflections, there is room for hope.

Cure.

In this complaint as in hypochondriasis the mind is to be amused by gaiety, music, books or light and pleasing subjects, by exercise and by conversing on those subjects that are in direct opposition to those which may have caused the disease, and by the other methods adapted to hypochondriasis; the subjects if this disease should never be left alone; costiveness and the symptoms of dyspepsia are to be removed by the before mentioned remedies. The diet should be nourishing and easy of digestion.

CHAPTER II.

Mania or Furious Madness.

CHARACTER.

A raving about some objects with desperation and great violence of action but without fever; maniacs generally have lucid intervals; mania is often periodical in its attack; whence the term lunatics.

Causes.

Too intense study ; violent passions of the mind ; repeated disappointments ; tumors and exostoses within the cranium ; exposure to the sun ; suddenly suppressed evacuations ; too free a use of spirituous liquors ; hereditary predisposition, a sanguineous temperament, continual melancholy, the proximate cause is an increased excitement of the sensorium.†

Diagnosis.

Mania is easily distinguished from phrenitis, the former never being accompanied by fever, on the contrary the latter is always attended by fever.‡

Prognosis.

Profuse hæmorrhages ; a diarrhœa or intermittent fever often restore health to the patient.

† Many doubts have arisen on this point ; the appearances on dissection of the brain vary exceedingly but organic injury consequent on too great a determination of blood to the part, is constantly met with.

‡ From delirium by the mental affection not being connected with any bodily disorder.

Cure.

In the first place it is necessary that the subject be confined in a cool and dark situation, and if the disease shall not have been of long standing, blood is to be freely and quickly drawn, but not otherwise; the bowels are to be daily evacuated by gentle cathartics, and repeated emetics are to be given; opium, camphor, digitalis are to be employed largely; cold applications and blisters to the shaved head are to be applied; ten grains of the gratiola in powder should be given night and morning; but above all remedies, the cold bath in the height of the paroxysm.

CLASS III.

CACHEXIÆ, OR CACHECTIC DISEASES.

CHARACTER.

A depraved state of the whole, or a great part of the body without any primary, febrile, or nervous affection,

ORDER I.

MARCORES.

Character.

Universal emaciation.

CHAPTER I.

Tabes or Atrophy.

CHARACTER.

A gradual wasting and debility of the whole body, hectic fever, generally a symptomatic affection.

Cure.

The primary disease is in the first place to be investigated and the remedies suited to it employed ; if it should arise from obstruction of the mesenteric glands, preparations of mercury must be employed until the swelling and hardness of the abdomen subside, afterwards preparations of iron ; columbo and bark.



CHAPTER II.

Atrophia Lactantium or Atrophy consequent on Suckling.

SYMPTOMS.

Emaciation and debility of the whole body with a circumscribed redness of the cheeks, wander-

ing pains in some part of the thorax, cough, difficulty of breathing; the pulse more than commonly quick and somewhat hard, accompanying; hectic fever at length supervening.

Causes.

Debility of the system arising from a deficiency of nourishment; and from too free a use of tea.

Cure.

In the first place the child must be taken from the breast, if difficulty of breathing, cough or pain in the breast prevail, a small, general or topical blood-letting will be of service; as also blisters to the thorax; mild laxatives and demulcents, the diet should consist of milk, vegetables or broths: but if debility only should arise, tonics; as the preparations of iron, bark, and the mineral acids should be made use of, and the diet should be nourishing.

ORDER II.

Intumescentiæ or Swellings.

CHARACTER.

The whole or a great part of the body swollen externally.



FLATUOSÆ OR FLATULENT SWELLINGS.

CHAPTER I.

Emphysema or air in the cellular membrane.

CHARACTER.

A tense elastic swelling of the body, crackling on pressure, sometimes accompanied by great difficulty of breathing and anxiety.

Causes.

Emphysema often arises without any evident cause, but it is generally induced by wounds of the thorax.

Cure.

The cellular membrane is to be scarified and the air expressed by the fingers ; if the difficulty of breathing should be urgent, venesection and laxatives are to be employed.

CHAPTER II.

Tympanites or Tympany.

SYMPTOMS.

A tense elastic sonorous swelling of the abdomen, but not fluctuating, preserving its state, and retaining its figure under every position of the body ; costive bowels, in violent attacks, stranguery or ischuria supervening ; pyrexia, sometimes borborygmi, flatulence, and eructations from the stomach and bowels precede the attack.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from ascites by the elastic and crackling swelling, and by the absence of fluctuation.

Cure.

Enemæ, and gentle cathartics; antispasmodics; as opium, oil of aniseed and the like, tonics joined with aromatics; the application of snow to the abdomen; sulphuric acid to excite an effervescence of the alimentaria; surrounding the abdomen with a roller; a clyster pipe should be introduced into the rectum and there retained for some time; the abdomen should be rubbed with the liniment of ammonia.†

† Should all our attempts be frustrated, the bowels remaining costive and the heat, thirst, distension, and pyrexia increase, we must have recourse to blood-letting to guard against the consequences of inflammation.

Dr. Temple proposes the cold bath, continued so as to become antispasmodic and relaxant, for the cure of this disease, as in trismus

AQUOSÆ OR WATERY SWELLINGS.

CHAPTER III.

Anasarca or Dropsy in the cellular membrane.

SYMPTOMS.

An inelastic soft swelling of the whole body, but occurring at first in the feet and toes, its first attack coming on on the approach of evening, retaining the impression of the fingers for a long time; paleness of the skin, great thirst, the quantity of urine much diminished, and reddish in colour; difficulty of breathing and a dry skin.

Causes.

The remote causes are debility of the system, induced by drinking spirituous liquors; obstructions in the lungs, heart and liver; drinking too freely of liquids, excessive evacuations, obstruction of the hæmorrhoidal discharge, internal inflammation, rupture of the lymphatics, of the thoracic duct or ureters inducing ascites;† the

† Aneurisms in the arteries; tumours causing pressure on the neighbouring parts; hereditary predisposition, frequent salivations, &c.

proximate cause is an increased effusion or diminished absorption of the fluids, or both.

Prognosis.

If no signs of visceral obstruction are present; if the quantity of urine is not diminished, the thirst not great, the strength at the same time not much impaired, a favorable opinion may be formed.

Cure.

The collected water is to be evacuated by small† puncture or‡ issues; bandages should be applied to the extremities, the legs well rubbed, particularly in the morning, repeated emetics, cathartics, as gamboge, jalap, extract of colocynth, calomel bryony, gratiola, supertartrite of potash, and the inspissated juice of elaterium, but the supertartrate of potash is the most powerful, if it is given in the quantity of an ounce each or every other morning in a large solution of water: diaphoretics as

† In employing these we must be careful to let the punctures penetrate no further than to the cellular membrane, deep incisions in dropsical subjects being apt to become gangrenous.

‡ These are more dangerous than punctures, if inserted in parts whose tone is destroyed, they will probably induce gangrene.

antimonial tartar, or ipecacuanha and opium ; diuretics, as saffron, squills, acetate of potash, tincture of lyttæ, the expressed juice of artichokes, and digitalis : these proving fruitless, a slight salivation is to be excited by mercury ; the tone of the system restored by exercise and tonics, as bark, quassia, preparations of iron and the cold bath : if the pulse should be full, hard, and tense, venesection will be highly useful ;

CHAPTER IV.

Hydrocephalus, or Water in the Head.

SYMPTOMS.

At the commencement of this disease the patient becomes listless : he is troubled with nausea and vomiting alternately, through the day ; he has great pain in the head which darts to the eye-brows, crown and back of the head, sometimes it alternates with affections of the stomach ; the head is often inclined more to one than the other side ; the eyes are impatient of light, the patient is watchful and generally moaning ; if sleep should overtake him, he generally grinds his teeth, and picks his nose, and starts suddenly from his doze as if affrighted. the bowels are

mostly costive, and the pulse from the commencement of the attack is fuller than in health: the above symptoms becoming aggravated, a slight degree of squinting is induced, the pupils are somewhat dilated, the vomiting becomes more frequent, the pain in the head and difficulty of breathing increases, the heat of the body and particularly of the head is augmented, a fever now comes on attended with evening exacerbations; the face becomes flushed; the action of the arteries becomes quicker, now slower, unequal, and intermittent, the pain appears to be somewhat mitigated and drowsiness succeeding the watchfulness of the first stage, the patient falls into a comatose state, his hands being often raised to his head; the squinting is increased, the pupils become more dilated, and at length total blindness takes place; the food is no longer rejected by vomiting, the bowels continue costive, nevertheless worms are at this time, frequently expelled downwards; the disease having continued in this way for some days, the arterial action becomes regular, but so weak and frequent as scarcely to be counted; the breathing is performed with difficulty and stertor; red spots break out over the whole body, particularly on the limbs, and at last severe convulsions ensue and terminate the patient's miserable existence.

Cause.

The cause of hydrocephalus appears to be inflammation of some part of the ieretrum, inducing effusion.

Diagnosis.

The pain in the head with vomiting; the intolerance of light, strabismus in the progress of the disease; and the dilated pupils will distinguish it from all other diseases.

Prognosis.

Stupor, dimness of the eyes, a weak and frequent pulse are unfavorable symptoms.

Cure.

Repeated general and topical blood-letting in the commencement of the disease particularly; cathartics of calomel and gamboge; mercurial in unction; a succession of blisters and cold applications to the head; errhines, as the yellow sub-sulphate of mercury in the proportion of one grain to fifteen of powdered sugar, to be snuffed up by portions; slight electric shocks passed through the head: in the second and last stage, wine, opium, and digitalis.

CHAPTER V.

Hydrothorax, or Dropsy of the Chest.

SYMPTOMS.

Difficult respiration; painful oppression at the chest; paleness of the countenance; œdema of the feet; scarcity of urine; great thirst; a cough, in the commencement dry, afterwards moist; great coldness; numbness of the arms; oppression in the recumbent posture; sudden starting from sleep, with palpitation and fluctuation of water in the chest: if one side of the thorax be more affected than the other, the patient inclines to the affected one, and the arm of that side is more torpid than the other.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from empyema, because in that, inflammation and hectic fever exists, which is not the case in hydrothorax.

Cure.

Diuretics, as digitalis and squills; opium and mercury conjointly; blisters to the chest; issues, and the remedies adapted to anasarca. Should not the operation of paracentesis be performed?

CHAPTER VI.

Ascites, or Dropsy of the Belly.

SYMPTOMS.

A tense equal, scarcely elastic, swelling of the abdomen, fluctuating on pressure; scanty and high coloured urine; a dry skin; constant thirst; bowels obstinately costive; the countenance pale and swollen; a dry cough; difficulty of breathing; drowsiness; a lancinating pain in the epigastric region.

Diagnosis.

It is distinguished from tympany by the sense of fluctuation when the belly is pressed on by the hand; in encysted dropsy the swelling is not regular but circumscribed, and the vigor of the system is less diminished.

Prognosis.

Great prostration of strength; drowsiness; coma; very laborious respiration are unfavorable symptoms.

Cure.

Emetics, particularly the sulphate of copper; diuretics; cathartics, if the bowels should be bound; daily friction of the abdomen with the fingers previously dipped in oil; tapping, and the other remedies before mentioned for dropsy: if it should arise from a morbid state of the viscera, mercurial preparations or digitalis must be employed.

INTUMESCENTIÆ SOLIDÆ, OR SWELLINGS OF THE
SOLID PARTS.

CHAPTER VII.

Rachitis, or Rickets.

SYMPTOMS.

It generally appears between the ninth month, and the second year of age, with flaccidity of the muscles; paleness and swelling of the countenance and aversion to motion and exercise; then the head, particularly the forehead and joints swell greatly; the sternum becomes sharp and prominent, the ribs depressed, the cylindrical bones incurvated, the abdomen tense and swol-

len, the bowels loose, the teeth are late in being cut, and quickly decay; the understanding appears premature.

Causes.

Debility; a humid and impure atmosphere; the milk not being sufficiently nutritious; an hereditary predisposition; a scrofulous habit, &c. The proximate cause appears to be a defect in the substance of the bones.†

Cure.

Gentle emetics; tonics, as preparations of iron and zinc conjoined with rhubarb; friction of the body with flannels; exercise; a nourishing diet; the cold bath, and exposure to a dry atmosphere: a prophylaxis is to be attempted by

† Supposed to arise from a deficiency of the phosphate of lime, or animal gluten.

exercise and cold bathing ; or, perhaps the warm bath.†

† Mr. Veirac of Rotterdam, asserts in his treatise on this disease, that it arises from the acidity of the milk in the stomach of children, being incorporated with the mass of blood and insinuating itself into the substance of the bones, and that the blood after death effervesces with the liq. ammon. carbonat., he recommends the administration of alkaline medicines. Mons. Bonhomme, of Paris, says the disorder arises from two causes, viz. the development of an acid nearly of the properties of the vegetable acids particularly the oxalic, and from the defect of the phosphoric acid, the combination of which with animal calcareous earth forms the basis of the bones. He thence infers that the treatment must rest on two points, viz., to prevent the development of the oxalic acid, and to re-establish the combination of the phosphoric with the calcareous earth. He thinks this is to be accomplished by the internal use of phosphurets of lime and soda, and the external use of alkaline lotions and relates many successful cures under this treatment.

ORDER III.

Impetigines or Cutaneous Diseases.

CHARACTER.

Cachectic diseases, particularly affecting the skin and external parts of the body.



CHAPTER I.

Scrofula.

SYMPTOMS.

Swellings of the conglobate (lymphatic) glands particularly in the neck, sometimes in the joints, void of pain, hard, and yielding to pressure, at length forming into ill-conditioned ulcers difficult to cure; protuberance of the upper lip and lower part of the nose; flushed cheeks; large weak

eyes; fine skin; swollen abdomen; it often goes off at the age of puberty.

Causes.

Hereditary predisposition; impure, moist, and foggy atmosphere; a peculiar constitution of the lymphatic system.

Cure.

Sea-bathing; saline, chalybeate and sulphurous waters, digitalis, solution of the muriate of barytes, carbonate of soda with bark in the form of an electuary in the proportion of two drachms of the former to one ounce of the latter; opium in the dose of a $\frac{1}{4}$ to an $\frac{1}{2}$ grain twice in the course of the day: preparations of iron and zinc: topical applications, such as salt water, lead water in the proportion of one ounce of the acetate of lead to a pint of water: powdered bark and the white oxyd of lead, of the former seven to one drachm of the latter; or the oxyd of the zinc sprinkled on the sore; cataplasms of sorrel to the tumours or ulcers. I have seen the solution of the muriate of lime used with much advantage. Perhaps oxygen gas, or electricity may be of service.

CHAPTER II.

Syphilis or the Venereal Disease.

CHARACTER.

A contagious disease arising from impure connexion, with itching about the glands of the penis or the pudenda, followed by venereal ulcerations, (called chancres) buboes, ulcerations of the tonsils, fauces, and skin, particularly at the roots of the hairs, ash coloured blotches, falling off in crusts and terminating in scaly ulcerations; pains in the limbs, particularly when the body is heated nodes, exostoses, &c.

Cure.

Mercury is to be internally and externally exhibited until a metallic taste is excited in the mouth, the gums made sore or a light salivation induced; the ulcers are to be healed as soon as possible by the application of argenti nitratum, subacetate of copper, mercurial ointment or nitrate of mercury; to prevent buboes, leeches should be applied on the swollen parts, and after-

wards blisters ; opium, the simple or compound decoction of sarsaparilla hasten the cure ; to the ulcerations in the tonsils, fumigations of the black oxyd and red sulphuret of mercury, or gargles of the muriate of mercury ; to warts, the powder of sabine, muriate of ammonia and muriated tincture of iron, &c. The lobelia syphilitica and the nitrous acid is now often employed with advantage.

CHAPTER III.

Gonorrhœa or Clap.

SYMPTOMS.

In three or four days after infection an unusual itching is perceived about the glans penis which becomes swollen and tense ; the mouth of the urethra is generally more open than usual and inflamed ; drops of a puriform matter can be squeezed from it ; the discharge becomes more thin, increased in quantity, and often tinged with blood ; the urine is passed with pain and a sense of heat ; the disease becoming aggravated, an incurvation of the penis (or chordee,) phymosis, paraphymosis, hernia humoralis, strictures of the urethra, &c. supervene.

Cure.

Injectations of the sulphate of zinc, acetate of lead, and the like, or rather of the muriate of mercury in the proportion of one grain, to eight ounces of rosewater, are to be used frequently through the day; if much inflammation should exist, warm oil, mucilage of gum: acacia, or a solution of opium should be injected; the antiphlogistic regimen must be strictly enforced; venesection, mild enema, laxatives, diluents and sedative applications to the part; a suspensory bag should be worn through the whole of the disease: to remove chordee, opium internally, or rubbing in an ointment composed of camphor: 2 drachms, spt. wine a few drops and common ointment half an ounce. In cases of swelled testicles, leeches to the part, mild enema, the warm bath, opiates, emollient cataplasms to the scrotum, sedative applications to the penis of the acetate of lead, and confinement to bed: if the parts should continue hard, mercurial friction, cicuta and the compound decoction of sarsaparilla must be employed: the tone of the part must be restored by astringent injections.

CHAPTER IV.

Scorbutus or Scurvy.

SYMPTOMS.

Unwonted lassitude ; aversion to motion, dejection of the spirits ; pale and swollen face, great prostration of strength, faintness after exercise, palpitation of the heart, wandering pains in the muscles are often the first indications of the disease ; blood oozes from the gums which are soft and spongy ; the breath is highly fetid, the gums ulcerated, the teeth are laid bare and become loose ; the skin at the commencement of the disease is hard and dry, afterwards broad livid blotches appear, particularly on the arms and legs, rarely on the face, and ulcers break out over the whole of the body ; the limbs swell and are painful, the tendons of the legs particularly become rigid and draw the legs up towards the thighs ; in the latter stage hæmorrhages break out from various parts of the body, as the mouth, nostrils, rectum and the extremities of the fingers ; the pulse is generally weak, the urine red, fetid, and after standing sometime is covered with an oily scum ; the tongue mostly exhibits its natural

appearance, the bowels are often through the whole course of the disease pertinaciously constive; but sometimes a diarrhœa with griping pains attends.†

Causes.

The remote causes are putrescent salted animal food; a want of vegetable substances; want of exercise, cold, moisture, depressing passions of the mind, neglect of cleanliness, the proximate cause is supposed to be a preternaturally saline state of the blood.

Prognosis.

A gentle diarrhœa; soft, moist, skin; the patient capable of bearing motion or exercise portend a favourable result.

Cure.

Fresh animal and vegetable food; ripe subacid fruit, fermented liquors; as cider, and malt liquor, strict cleanliness, stimulants, as horseradish, white mustard, &c. wine, preparations of iron,

† Dr. Blane in his works on the diseases of seamen remarks that he has observed nyctalopia as one of the attending symptoms of scurvy.

bark, mineral acids, opium ; for the spongy gums, gargles, composed of a solution of alum in proportion of four drachms of it to six ounces of water ; cataplasms of sorrel should be applied to the ulcers : the nitrate of potash dissolved in vinegar has been lately used with the highest advantage in the proportion of half an ounce of the former to four ounces of the latter : of which the dose is from half to one ounce three or four times in the course of the day : the ulcers should be washed with the solution ; oxygen gas should also be introduced into the system.



CHAPTER V.

Elephantiasis or swelling of the leg resembling an Elephant's.

CHARACTER.

A contagious disease ; the skin thick, rough, wrinkled, unctuous and deprived of its hair ; the feeling in the extremities of the limb diminished or abolished ; the face deformed by tubercles the breath very fetid, the voice hoarse and nasal, the pulse slow and weak, the disease increasing the joints gangrene and separate.

Cure.

Blood-letting; mild cathartics, the warm bath, a nourishing diet and at the same time easy of digestion; preparations of antimony and mercury particularly the muriate; oxyd of arsenic, tincture of white hellebore, sulphuric acid, decoctions of guiacum, sarsaparilla, and elm bark given liberally; tincture of lytta and the serpentry root.†

CHAPTER VI.

Lepra or Leprosy.

CHARACTER.

The skin rough, itchy and covered with scaly furfuraceous white spots, the parts underneath being sometimes moist.

† I believe that the best mode of treatment consists in applying constant and equal pressure to the limb, on the plan recommended by Mr. Baynton in the cure of ulcers: the strips of adhesive plaister should be renewed about twice a week and the parts each time well soaked in strong soap-suds. Mr. Ward of Manchester I believe has tried this plan successfully.

Cura.

Issues; abstinence from fermented liquors, gentle exercise, antimonial medicines, decoction of elm bark and the remedies spoken of in the preceding chapter, or the antimonial tartar conjoined with opium and given in small quantities? or the nitric acid.

CHAPTER VII.

Icterus or Jaundice.

SYMPTOMS.

An obtuse pain in the right side, a sense of weight and tension about the precordia; torpor and lassitude of the whole body, itching and dryness of the skin, a bitter taste in the mouth, oftentimes nausea and vomiting: yellowness of the skin and eyes; clay coloured fœces, and the urine of a dusky red colour, tinging any thing dipped in it of a yellow colour. The bowels generally costive and fever sometimes attendant.

Causes.

The remote causes are, bilious calculi, preventing the flow of bile into the intestines; spasms of the biliary ducts; enlargements of the liver and neighbouring viscera compressing the ductus communis choledocus: retention of bile in the intestines. The proximate cause is an absorption or regurgitation of bile into the sanguiferous system.

Cure.

If the disease should arise from calculi or spasm similar remedies are in either case required; if the pain in the right side should be very severe, or if any symptoms of pyrexia be present, blood is to be drawn; the warm bath, gentle emetics, opiates, or hyoscyamus, fomentations, blisters, laxatives, such as aloes, castor oil, soap, carbonate of potash joined with bitters, emollient enema: tepid diluents; sulphuric ether with yolk of eggs; electric shocks passed through the ductus communis choledocus, afterwards seltzer water, bark and preparations of iron, are to be severally employed: if the disease should arise from retention of bile in the intestines, purgatives; if from tumours or diseased viscera, mercury, cicuta etc.

CLASS IV.

LOCALES OR LOCAL AFFECTIONS.

CHARACTER.

Affection of a part but not of the whole body.

ORDER I.

DYSESTHESIÆ OR DISEASES OF THE SENSES.

Character.

Depravation or loss of some sense arising from defect of the external organs.

CHAPTER I.

Amaurosis or Gutta Serena.

CHARACTER.

A diminished or entirely abolished vision, without an evident defect of the eye, generally with a dilated and immoveable pupil.

Causes.

The remote causes are compression of the part from congestion or external violence ; atony or paralysis of the optic nerves ;† the proximate cause is insensibility of the retina.

Cure.

If it should arise from compression or congestion the remedies adapted to them are to be employed ; if from atony or paralysis of the optic

† Compression of the optic nerves, which may be occasioned by an enlargement of the vessels forming the arterial circle surrounding the sella turcica the anterior portion of which circle passes over the optic nerve. A dilatation of the artery which passes directly through the centre of the optic nerve may also be productive of the disease.

nerves, stimulants, as blisters to the temples, electricity, errhines, as the hydrarg: sub-sulphus flav: with eight parts of powdered liquorice: the internal remedies suited to paralysis are to be made use of.

CHAPTER II.

Dysecoea (Paracosis) or Deafness.

CHARACTER.

The sense of hearing diminished or abolished.

Causes.

Organic defect: too great dryness of the ear, hardened wax; inflammation of the membranes, obstruction of the eustachian tube, atony or paralysis of the acoustic (or auditory) nerve; syphilis.

Cure.

If it should arise from organic defect, it is incurable; if from too great dryness of the ear, or indurated wax, a solution of the muriate of soda and emollients are to be applied; if from inflammation, topical blood-letting and the other

remedies adapted to inflammation are to be employed, and the external air is to be excluded ; if from† obstruction of the eustachian tube, gargles, injections by means of a syringe ; errhines as powdered asarum, and the yellow subsulphate of mercury ; when the patient can hear better on a loud noise being made, he should be desired to expel the air with all his force, through the ears, his mouth and nostrils being kept closed, when the hearing is often suddenly restored : if from atony or paralysis, stimulants and electricity : if from lues venerea, mercury must be used.

† Permanent obstruction sometimes takes place in consequence of effusion of coagulable lymph and adhesions from high inflammation ; it is here necessary to make an opening into the *cavitas tympani*, to answer the purpose of the eustachian tube, which operation must be performed through the *membrana tympani*. For an account of a new and excellent instrument for this purpose as also of the mode of performing the operation, &c. See “ Observations on the functions and some particular states of the organ of hearing by Jacob V. Asbury M. C. S. &c.” or the *London Medical Repository* for Sept. 1817.

ORDER II.

Apocenosés, or Increased Discharges.

CHARACTER.

An unusual flow of blood or other humours without pyrexia, or an increased action of the fluids.



CHAPTER I.

Eneuresis or Incontinence of Urine.

CHARACTER.

An involuntary flow of urine from the bladder not attended with pain.

Causes.

Atony or paralysis of the sphincter of the bladder; irritation or compression.

Cure.

Atony is to be removed by cold applied to the perinæum, blisters, and tonics internally; paralysis by blisters, electricity, and stimulants: if it should arise from irritation or compression the remedies adapted to these affections must be employed.

ORDER III.

Epischeses or Suppressed Excretions.

CHARACTER.

Suppression of Excretions.



CHAPTER I.

Ischuria Renalis.†

CHARACTER.

A total suppression of urine, a disease of the kidneys having preceded, with pain or an uneasy

† When the disease is attended with frequent desire to void the urine, and much difficulty attends the voidance of it, it is termed "Dysury or Strangury;" when there is total suppression, the disease is called "Ischury." They are severally divided into acute and chronic, acute when the consequence of inflammation chronic when arising from other causes as a calculus, &c.

sense of weight in the region of the kidneys, numbness of the thigh, nausea oftentimes vomiting, and unattended by any tumour in the hypogastrium or desire of making water.

Causes.

Inflammation of the kidneys ; calculi, coagulated blood or pus in the pelvis of the kidneys, spasms or paralysis of the kidneys.

Cure.

If it should arise from nephritis, the remedies adapted to it as elsewhere mentioned are to be employed ; if from calculi, unless plethora should exist, blood-letting is generally prejudicial ; not otherwise ; the hot bath ; opiates, emollient or laxative clysters prepared with the venice turpentine, diluents, external antispasmodics, gentle catharsis by means of olive or castor oil should be employed : if it should arise from spasm, the same means are to be resorted to : if from coagulated blood, the warm bath, anodynes, enema, &c. if from paralysis, electricity, stimulants, blisters, &c.

CHAPTER II.

Ischuria Ureterica.

An absolute suppression of urine ; with previous disease of the kidneys and a sense of pain or uneasiness in some part of the ureter, and without any tumour in the hypogastrium or desire to make water : it arises from the same causes as the former disease and requires a similar mode of treatment.

CHAPTER III.

Ischuria Vesicalis.

CHARACTER.

A suppression with a tumour in the hypogastrium, at first bearing the form of the bladder, with pain or an uneasy sensation of weight at the neck of the bladder, and accompanied with a frequent desire to void the urine.

Causes.

Inflammation of the bladder; or a diseased action of the coats or muscular fibres; calculi, spasms of the sphincter of the bladder, paralysis of the bladder, or continued over distension of it, grumous blood, mucus or pus about the neck of the bladder, scybala, flatus, abscesses, piles, pregnancy.

Cure.

If inflammation should exist, blood must be drawn, but not otherwise; the warm bath must be used, mild enemæ, friction of the pubes with camphorated liniment: opiates, these being of no avail, the catheter must be passed or the bladder punctured; or perhaps an emetic; if the complaint should arise from a diseased state of the coats of the bladder, mercury, cicuta and electricity: if from calculi lithon triptics, as solutions of the sub-carbonate of potash, or soda; the aqua kali pura, anodyne enemæ, lapis suillus and uva ursi: and these not having the desired effect lithotomy must be performed: if from spasm, venesection, the warm bath, opiates, emollient enemæ; if from paralysis the remedies before mentioned: if from long continued distension of

the bladder, cold applications to the hypogastrium : if from coagulated blood, mucus, or pus, the hot bath, enemæ, and opiates : if from pregnancy the catheter must be introduced : if from other causes the remedies adapted to them severally, as before spoken of, must be resorted to.

CHAPTER IV

Ischuria Urethralis.

CHARACTER.

Suppression of urine with a circumscribed tumor in the Hypogastrium, accompanied with a frequent desire to make water, and pain in some part of the urethra.

Causes.

A tumor in the perinæum ; a calculus impacted in the urethra ; coagulated blood, mucus or pus ; inflammation of the urethra ; stricture ; canals ; phymosis ; schirrhous, or disease of the prostate gland.

Cure.

The remote causes are to be removed ; if it should arise from calculus the warm bath, fomen-

tations, opiates, emollient enemæ, and mucilaginous demulcents are to be employed; these not having the desired effect, the calculus must be extracted: if from stricture, the tinct. ferr. muriat. must be given every ten minutes in doses of ten drops each time, until the spasm is removed. There are many other causes which require the aid of the surgeon—the urine is to be evacuated by the method prescribed by his art.

ORDER IV.

Dialyses or Solution of Parst.

CHARACTER.

Solution or discontinuity of a part manifest to the sight or touch.



CHAPTER I.

Herpes or Tetter.

CHARACTER.

Cuticular vesicles, filled with a watery fluid, or numerous clustering, itching, creeping little ulcers ; sometimes moist, at others dry, falling off in surfuraceous scales, seldom forming scabs.

Cure.

Sulphuric acid ; tincture of lyttæ, or hellebore, lime water, decoction of elm bark, compound calomel pills, (commonly called Plummer's pills) the ulcers should be anointed with the ungt. hydrarg. nit. or sulphuric acid mixed with eight times it's weight of hogslard, or washed with a solution of the sulphate of iron, or a lotion of the sulphuret of potash.

CHAPTER II.

Tinca or Scald Head.

CHARACTER.

Small ulcers on the scalp at the roots of the hair, discharging an ichor which falls off in a white friable crust.

Cure.

The head must be shaved : the hot bath, blisters, issues, an ointment of the nitrate of mercury, a pitch plaister, a solution of the sulphuret of potash in proportion of two drachms of it to two pints of water and the internal remedies adapted to the cure of herpes.

CHAPTER III.

Psora or the Itch.

CHARACTER.

Pustules or little ulcers very itchy on becoming warm in bed, a contagious disease, affecting the internal parts of the fingers, wrists and joints particularly.

Cure.

Rubbing in sulphur ointment, or washing the affected parts with a solution of the oxyd of arsenic or muriate of mercury or taking the sulphuric acid internally.

The Yellow Fever not having been treated of by Dr. Clarke, and the Editor not having had any opportunity of making personal observations on it as incident, to this climate, he thought he could not do better than offer to his readers, a translation of M. B. Sauvage's treatise on the disease, as it appeared in Carolina, than which he believes he could not have met with a more concise and able production.

THE SIAM OF HALLER.

TYPHUS ICTERODES.

Yellow Fever of America.

FIRST STAGE.

Commencement of the Disease.

FREQUENTLY three days prior to the attack of Fever, the patient complains of head-ache, pains in his loins, weakness in his knees and legs, difficulty of breathing and nausea.

Afterwards the fever commences by shivering the pulse is full and frequent, often hard, the parotids pulsate ; the heat does not exceed the 102

degrees of Fahrenheit; it continues in the same state during two days, without suffering any remission, and is accompanied by a sweat that disappears on the third day. The respiration is very feeble; the least motion or swallowing, being sufficient to accelerate it; the tongue is moist, rough, white, and brown towards the centre. On the second day, the thirst is moderate. On the third, the heat and sweating cease; the pulse remits; nausea and vomiting supervene. The hypochonders neither hard nor tense. On the first day, the patient has an inclination to sleep, the former pains are renewed, his mind is dejected, he is feeble, his face and eyes are red, and he cannot endure the light; he rarely becomes delirious: the fœces are not yet black. On blood being drawn, it appears fluid, and separates no serum. On the second day, the patient is restless and agitated, but free from pain; the fœces are hard and dark coloured; the bowels are constipated; there is constant watchfulness; the urine is abundant, pale, and on the first day depositing a copious sediment; on the second day it is muddy, and deposits a dusky sediment; on the third day it is bloody. In 72 hours (more or less) the pulse becomes slow, the heat goes off without any critical evacuation; if, however.

a perspiration had been excited during the three days, by mild diluents and diaphoretics, the danger disappeared with the fever; others being in an extreme state of debility, and having the yellowness of the eyes entered into the second stage of the disease.

SECOND STAGE.

The pulse is slower, and softer than in a state of health, very often disappearing, and then the yellowness, vomiting, delirium and anxiety increase. The heat is natural; the pulse being enfeebled, a coldness supervenes; the face, chest and extremities, are demi-livid; the skin is clammy, when the air is cold, and moist when it is hot; the respiration is slow; the tongue clear and red towards the point; the patient's craved cold water, without however, suffering much thirst. The nausea and vomiting afterwards increased, insomuch that they scarcely could retain any thing on the stomach; some vomited blood, others black and viscid bile; they never slept, having only continually interrupted drowsiness, consequent on extreme debility; their uneasiness and restlessness, was such as scarcely to permit them to remain in bed; nevertheless, were they

ed "how they felt themselves?" They always answered,* "they were well." Scarcely did they raise their heads from the pillow, when the pulse vanished, a coldness seized on them; a clammy sweat overspread them; the lips, the extremities, the face, and even the nails became livid, so extreme was the debility; the delirium returned in an aggravated form, particularly where the pulse was small and feeble. The opthalmia was more violent, but not attended with pain; then the yellowness appeared in the eyes, had it not supervened on the commencement of the second stage; the whole body soon became yellow; in a few subjects, the yellowness which had been concentrated in the eyes, extended it; self to the neck and breast, immediately on the approach of death; the neck and breast, and sometimes (though more rarely) the extremities were overspread with lividly red blotches; females were subject to profuse menstrual dischar-

* This circumstance, I believe, has been, or might have been, remarked by every practitioner, who has attended patients in the fever, now before us, and a most unfavourable prognosis it is, as betokening that extreme exhaustion which renders them incapable, even to the exertion of answering our enquiries, and from which I fear none, or very few recover.

W.

ges, and before the ordinary period ; the blood was then in such a state of dissolution, that it was not only discharged by vomiting, and from the urinary passage, but from the nose, mouth, ears, eyes, and the blistered parts, and sometimes even from the pores of the skin ; of the patient's, some were constipated, others had frequent uterine evacuations ; some discharged a black and liquid matter, with much difficulty ; others a slimy, or black and tenacious matter, the evacuation of which relieved them, when it flowed moderately. The flow of urine was profuse ; yellowish in those who had jaundice, in others pale, and always depositing a copious sediment ; in some, it was cloudy or bloody. This stage commonly lasted seven or eight days.

THIRD STAGE.

If all the symptoms moderated at the time when the pulse became full, or when the strength began to be re-established, the patient might hope to recover, otherwise all the unfavourable symptoms increased, and new ones supervened ; the pulse became smaller and unequal ; the extremities became cold and livid, the countenance of a leaden hue ; in some, it was animated with a

vivid colour, the number of spots were so increased, that the neck and breast was altogether black with them; the palpitation of the heart was very violent, the heat extended itself over the whole epigastric region; the respiration was difficult; the patient continually uneasy and agitated; the sweat ran down from the face neck and breast; blood issued, at once, from the nostrils, mouth and ears; a difficulty of swallowing, hiccough, twitching of the tendons, drowsiness and delirium soon appeared with the other symptoms.

Twelve hours before death, the patient was speechless, and without pulse. In these patients on whom the disease was more acute, it terminated in convulsions, under which the patient expired: after death, the spots increased, and the putrefaction of the body was in a short time complete.

When the air was extremely heated, two or three days sufficed to pass through these stages. The epidemic and contagion, increased with the heat of the atmosphere in South Carolina; they decreased, as it became cold; at such time also, the severity of the symptoms and danger diminished. The disease was more dangerous, where the patients breathed a confined and unrenovated atmosphere; when they were new comers,

and of robust constitutions ; when they allowed themselves to be overcome by fear ; when they had endured fatigue, or had been enfeebled by preceding diseases.—All those who arrived at the third stage, died. In the first stage—As is the head-ach, pain in the loins, ophthalmia, intolerance of light, and redness of the face, excessive, so is the disease violent and acute ; and as the first stage is short, so in proportion is the second also ; for where the force of the pulse weakened before the third day, the patient died about the fifth ; the pulse becoming feeble on the third day, presaged the worst symptoms. The danger was so much the greater, as the patient was enfeebled at the commencement of the disease.

The urine depositing a considerable sediment in the first days of the disease, constituted a bad omen.

In the second stage.—If, on the second day, the eyes became yellow, the patient died on the fourth ; if this symptom did not occur until the third day, the disease terminated either more favourably or slowly, as towards the 13th or 14th day, the more deeply coloured, and rapidly extensive was the jaundice, the greater was the room for fear. Redness of the eyes or such, around the

blistered places, was also a bad omen. The black vomit was commonly a fatal occurrence; a lividness of the spots, lips, nails, redness or pallid hue of the countenance, announced approaching death. Frequent, copious, and black alvine discharges, unattended with relief to the patient, were mortal—all hæmorrhages, save that from the nose and uterus, were bad omens, Ischuria was also followed by death.

This* is a contagious disease; it attacks only whites,† and especially strangers arriving from old countries. Indians and mulattoes, infants excepted, are only once subject to its attack.—This disease‡ never attacks negroes.

This disease may be defined a fever in which the violence of the pulse lasts only for two or three days, as in the ephemera; it terminates without a critical evacuation, and there remains a high degree of debility, with a small pulse, which the least motion of the body, or a vertical posture, will immediately suspend; and then

* The weight of authority in the medical world, and certainly the highest of this country, contradict this opinion.

† Dr. Rush pointedly contradicts this assertion.

‡ Seldom might, perhaps, be more proper.

W:

an universal jaundice, without heat or frequency of pulse, quickly supervenes.

This disease was epidemical in the Carolinas; from the end of August until the middle of October, in the year 1748.

Of the Treatment, Sauvage tells us nothing.

I think that this disease, as attacking new comers, must be regarded as an highly aggravated form of inflammatory bilious fever. When attacking the natives, or long residents of the climate, I think we must regard it as an aggravated form of Typhus. The treatment of it, under its first head, I subjoin as the one most consonant to my pathology. In the treatment of the latter, I refer to what has been said under the head of Typhus, paying due regard, however, to the peculiar and distressing gastric affection.

The treatment may be divided into three stages.

In the first stage, bleeding, is in general found necessary, especially where the re-action of the system is great. We must, however, be careful to limit venæ section to the early part of the first stage, although it may sometimes be neces-

sary to bleed at a later period, especially in plethoric subjects. The first bleeding ought always to be copious, and taken from a large orifice ;—the repetition, however, of this evacuation, requires the most deliberate care, lest the system be suddenly prostrated, beyond the powers of medicine to redeem. At this stage of the disease, the gastric distress, strongly indicates the use of emetics ; and these are, indeed, generally followed with much relief to the patient. The violence of the gastric symptoms must determine the necessity of repeating their use. If the stomach be very irritable, which it sometimes is, a blister to the epigastric region, does much good in allaying the excessive irritability of this organ.

Our attention must next be directed to the alimentary canal ; which should be evacuated by a mercurial purge ; and afterward kept in a relaxed state, by the use of lenient aperients. After the re-action is somewhat reduced ; should the heat of the surface still continue very great, with a dry and parched skin, ablutions of cold or tepid water, may be resorted to with much advantage, together with refrigerating and acidulated drinks. Calomel should now be given in such doses, as to bring the system speedily un-

der the mercurial influence. By these means the disease is sometimes happily terminated. But should the disease continue, as is too often the case, and pass on into the typhoid form, which constitutes its third stage, then the treatment before spoken of under the head of typhus, must be resorted to.

W. W.

THE END.



Med. Hist.

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